



COLONIAL REPORTS

Nyasaland

1949



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THE SERIES OF COLONIAL REPORTS which was re-introduced for the year 1946 (after suspension in 1940) is being continued with those relating to 1949. It is hoped that the territories for which 1949 Reports are being published will be as listed on cover page 3.

1949

1950

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The cover illustration shows a typical landscape

PART I

Review of 1949

At the beginning of 1949 the people of Nyasaland were fully aware of the fact that the year was not to be an easy one; failure of the rains in the closing months of 1948 meant consequences of a severe nature, calling for a maximum effort from Government departments and the community as a whole in an endeavour to mitigate the worst effects of the drought.

To combat the failure of the early crops an extensive food production drive was energetically pursued under the supervision of unofficials and staff seconded from normal departmental duties. As a result of the drive the Northern and Central Provinces of the Protectorate, where the drought was less severe, gathered a harvest sufficient for the normal requirements of the local population. Repeated plantings in the Southern Province gave hope of a successful growth, only to wither subsequently as a result of further prolonged dry spells. In the main, therefore, the areas adversely affected by the drought were the Southern Province and the lowlands of the Central Province.

It became evident in February, 1949, that the poor harvest to be expected in these areas would necessitate the exercise of emergency powers providing for the control of all African foodstuffs available in the Protectorate; an African Foodstuffs Commissioner was appointed, with a staff drawn from Government departments, to co-ordinate the measures of famine relief in distressed areas. The organisation set up under the African Foodstuffs Commissioner dealt with the distribution of food in districts where famine existed and arranged for the importation of foodstuffs when necessary.

For the first time in the history of Nyasaland large sections of the indigenous population were obliged to depend on the bulk importation of foodstuffs, a task made doubly difficult by the transport situation prevailing at the beginning of the year. External communications with the Protectorate have never been easy, and the break in the only rail link to the sea, by the destruction of the Chiromo Bridge in 1948, meant that all traffic between Nyasaland and the Port of Beira had to be trans-shipped across the Shire River.

Nevertheless, the Railways in spite of these setbacks succeeded in moving a rapidly increasing tonnage and at the end of 1949, 14,000 tons of maize and 1,500 tons of other African foods had been imported from Southern Rhodesia, Kenya, Tanganyika and the United States of America. Much needed relief was given to the overstrained Nyasaland Railways by the opening of alternative routes from Mozambique and Quelimane by arrangement with the Portuguese Authorities. Storage for the grain proved a serious problem in the initial stages, but the position was considerably eased when the Tobacco Auction Floors and

markets became available at the close of the tobacco season. Precautions had to be taken to prevent losses through rodent and insect damage, and the Government Entomologist supervised the fumigation of all bulk stocks.

District Commissioners were made responsible, under the direction of the African Foodstuffs Commissioner, for the operation of relief schemes within their districts and were assisted in some urban and rural areas by Special Relief Officers seconded from other Government Departments. As the cost of imported maize was several times greater than the price at which maize had previously been sold in the Protectorate, it became necessary for Government to inaugurate relief works in certain areas in order to assist Africans to purchase the foodstuffs made available. These were conducted on a paid labour or communal system, whichever was considered more appropriate in the area concerned. In this way free issues were avoided, except in a limited number of instances to aged, infirm and destitute; feeding camps were established to care for some of these categories. Elsewhere the maize was sold at a little below the imported cost. The gross cost of importation was approximately £700,000, and it is estimated that the net cost of the subsidy on sales, relief works, feeding camps, and planting drives, will be approximately £300,000.

Preoccupation with the problems arising from the effects of the drought did not prevent steady progress being maintained in the projects forming part of the planned development programme of the Protectorate. The aerial survey of the country under the Colonial Survey scheme was not completed in 1949 as envisaged in the 1948 Report, but it was possible to complete the photographing of the whole of the Southern and Central Provinces with the exception of an area surrounding the control station at Fort Johnston. Little photography was possible in the Northern Province and the uncompleted area includes the whole of the Vipya and Nyika Plateaux, which it is hoped to complete in 1950; it will be some years before all the maps covering the Protectorate are available, although a gradual flow is expected to commence in 1950. This will contribute materially to the progress made in the mineralogical surveys, impeded to date by lack of accurate and detailed map facilities. Apart from the R.A.F. aerial survey, a South African company was commissioned during 1949 to undertake the aerial survey of Blantyre/Limbe, Lilongwe, Kaningina and Nkata Bay for town planning purposes. Rough surveys have also been carried out in several areas in which it is thought that food crop production can be extended under suitable drainage or irrigation schemes. Further research indicates that the stabilisation of Lake Nyasa is physically practicable and investigations are now proceeding to decide on a site for the construction of the weir. It will, of course, be necessary at an appropriate stage to consult other territories which may be concerned. Preliminary investigations were undertaken in 1948 to prove the existence and extent of the coalfield at Livingstonia. A programme of drilling was put in hand last July but it is as yet too early to draw any firm conclusions. The improvements proposed for the Blantyre Aerodrome were approved in 1948 and a grant made under the Colonial

Development and Welfare Act to finance the scheme. Work commenced on the project in April, 1949, but shortages of material and labour retarded progress in the early stages. Blantyre is intended to become the terminal airport for the Protectorate, suitable for the operation of International services in all seasons.

In April, 1949, the Protectorate was honoured by a visit from the Secretary of State for the Colonies. During his brief stay of 10 days he completed a full and varied programme of visits, interviews and inspections. The visit was much appreciated by the people of Nyasaland who welcomed the opportunity provided of putting their problems to the Secretary of State personally.

All sections of the Protectorate's population continue to increase in numbers. The figures for the year show no significant trends other than those already referred to in previous reports. The African population is now estimated at 2,450,000. The European element numbers approximately 4,000, a substantial increase on the figure of 3,000 for 1948, accounted for by the influx of private employees and Government servants coincident with the progressive development of the country. A high birth rate and a substantial immigration figure contribute to the increase in the Asian population from 4,000 in 1948 to approximately 5,000 in 1949. It is inevitable that the increase in population will bring with it its own problems and these are further discussed in the main body of the Report.

The general labour situation during 1949 was seriously affected by the second planting campaign. Many workers left their employment and returned to villages to prepare their gardens, but by December the advent of the 1949-50 rains did much to restore the position to normal. In 1948 the number of absentees at work abroad had shown a decline on the previous year; the figure of 146,000 for 1949 showed an increase of 6,000 on that of 1948, due no doubt to the reluctance of the Nyasa working abroad to return on account of the food shortage. As opposed to this increase the total number of Identity Certificates issued showed a slight decline from 34,000 in 1948 to 32,000 in 1949. Temporary emigration is an important feature of contemporary life but the trends indicated above reflect a gradual change of mind on the part of the Nyasa. As his country develops, opportunities of improved conditions of employment and wage earning facilities provide him with an incentive to stay, and each successive year should see a diminution of the migrant labour figure. The Inter-Territorial Agreement on migrant African labour came into force on 1st January, 1949, but as yet it is too early to judge its effects. Nyasaland retains a considerable degree of responsibility for those of its people who emigrate and two Government representatives are stationed in Johannesburg and Salisbury respectively. Their function is to deal with matters arising from problems of migrant labour in those territories.

Because of the shortage of food and the consequent increase in the cost-of-living, most employers in 1949 increased their rates of wages. It also became evident that the salaries of African Government employees, introduced as a result of the Salaries Commission, 1948, had not proved altogether satisfactory. A revision was undertaken and new scales were

put into operation in October. There were no stoppages of work of a serious nature in the period under review. Several minor dislocations occurred but work was quickly resumed after investigation of complaints. Two trade unions were registered in 1949: a workers' association styled "The Nyasaland Association of African Motor Transport Workers", and the corresponding employers' association. Joint discussions between the two bodies are now taking place to negotiate an agreement covering rates of pay and conditions of employment. Legislation was passed during the year establishing Advisory Boards for the three Provinces of the Protectorate. They are convened quarterly under the chairmanship of the Provincial Commissioner and report to Government on matters concerning conditions of employment and current wage rates. Approval previously given during the war for the employment of young persons below the age of fourteen years in industrial undertakings has now been revoked.

The combined value of imports and exports at £9,772,000, represents an increase of 14 per cent on the 1948 figure of £8,417,000. Comparison of the import and export figures separately, however, points to an adverse balance of trade; imports were valued at £5,592,000, and exports at £4,730,000. This is explained by the increased importation of capital goods and factory installations. Tobacco, tea and cotton production suffered severely from the unfavourable weather conditions. Internal trade caused anxiety at the beginning of 1949 owing to transport difficulties, but during the course of the year the general supply situation improved. Some goods such as dairy products and steel manufactures are still in very short supply and others are only obtainable from hard currency sources. It has been necessary to prepare detailed programmes for nearly 100 items of such kinds and limit imports to the approved priority programmes and quotas allocated to this territory. The appointment of a Price Controller during the year did much to enforce effectively the provisions of the Price Control Regulations. In the case of commodities now more freely available—particularly cotton-piece goods—price control has been relaxed.

Agriculturally, the country suffered severely from the drought. Mention has been made earlier of the failure of the main food crops and of the emergency plantings of secondary foodstuffs such as cassava and sweet potatoes which did much to alleviate the food situation at the end of the year. The Kota Kota rice crop sufficed only for local needs but at Karonga late rains made possible a surplus of 650 tons. The final purchase figures for tobacco showed a total Native Trust Land crop of 15,600,000 lb. of leaf. Late plantings had grown despite the drought and the abnormal dry weather itself contributed in one respect by reducing the incidence of disease. The three-year experiment at the Kasungu Tobacco Experimental Station financed by a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds came to an end this year but a decision was made to continue it from Protectorate funds on an annual basis and to increase the area under tobacco cultivation in the 1949-50 season.

In the past, the major maize consumers have relied entirely on surpluses from subsistence farming to meet their annual requirements. The

growing population of the Protectorate, however, has materially reduced this surplus and in 1948 it became increasingly evident that these major consumers would have to establish their own supplies. In 1949 Government acquired 16,000 acres of land for the production of maize and other African foodstuffs. This is intended to meet the requirements of all Government Departments in the future. Despite shortage of labour and difficulties of clearing hard ground, satisfactory progress was made by the end of the year in preparing the target figure of 1,000 acres for planting. It is interesting to note that heavy tractors were used in the initial clearing. Soil conservation work progressed favourably, the main emphasis being on general agriculture, improved methods of cultivation and the ridging and protection of gradients by bunding. Staff engaged on the work, both European and African, met with considerable opposition from the conservative and occasionally stubborn attitude of the African farmer. Reports are being received from certain areas, however, that the latter is beginning to appreciate the advantages to be gained from adherence to the instructions given by the local soil conservation teams. A Soil Conservation Officer has been appointed to each Province and under the Natural Resources Ordinance of 1949, Provincial Conservation Boards have been set up to assist the work of the local teams. Their function is to exercise supervision over natural resources in their areas and to make provision for the conservation of those resources where necessary.

Progress has been made in implementing the report of the Land Planning Committee set up as a result of the recommendations of the Land Commission under Sir Sidney Abrahams. Discussions were initiated in July and August, 1949 with two large land-holding companies and preliminary arrangements completed in December for the purchase of over 200,000 acres of land. Pending the successful conclusion of these negotiations, detailed plans have been drawn up to enable immediate benefits to be derived from the land as soon as it becomes available to Government. Over half the land involved in this transaction lies in the Zomba District, the remainder being distributed between the Blantyre, Cholo and Lower River Districts. The resettlement of these areas is likely to be a formidable task and an administrative officer is being temporarily seconded to assist the Land Settlement Officer. Financial provision for the resettlement project has already been made. In the Kasungu District, estates totalling 21,500 acres have been demarcated and surveyed and offered to private planters and syndicates; this land will be opened up within the next two years.

Unfavourable seasonal conditions caused the depletion of livestock in the Protectorate. This, in itself, proved to be advantageous in the overstocked areas of the Northern Province but the overall effect on livestock products was severe. The shortage of animal products, so essential to the needs of the people, indicates that a more realistic conception of the importance of animal husbandry is necessary in rural life. Steps are being taken to remedy the position and in this respect the three stock improvement centres established by Government in 1948 will play an important part. The progress hoped for at the centres in 1949 did not materialise.

owing to shortage of staff, but foundation stock was purchased for all three. That farmers are aware of the shortage of animal products is illustrated by the revival of interest in livestock shown in the Southern Province during the year. Fifteen buyers purchased cattle for breeding purposes from the Government Dairy Farm and many others improved the housing and care of their livestock generally. The general position with regard to disease of domestic stock did not deteriorate in 1949. "Three-days' sickness" of cattle was confirmed for the first time in the Protectorate and a serious epidemic of rabies involving the Central and Southern Provinces occurred in the second half of the year. The prompt imposition of quarantine and control measures in the main townships helped to control the incidence of the disease.

Extreme difficulty is being experienced in meeting the increasing demand for forest produce of all kinds. The Forestry Department is engaged on a hardwood logging and extraction scheme in the Central Province and has also supplied the bulk of the Government's requirements in its emergency housing plans. The output of the two private concerns holding exclusive logging licences was completely absorbed by local industry. Mechanisation of timber extraction on Mlanje Mountain, begun in 1948, continued successfully during the year and it is anticipated that 1950 will see a marked development in exploitation of the cedar forest in that area. Three small forest sawmills, operated by private enterprise, and the first of their kind in Nyasaland, are now working in the Southern Province. Re-afforestation of 550 acres in the Southern and Central Provinces under a Colonial Development and Welfare scheme is the largest area yet planted in any one year by Government. At the beginning of 1949, an understanding was reached between Government and the Acme Tea Chest Company (a United Kingdom concern) whereby the latter would establish a plywood factory in the Southern Province. The primary object of the Company is to produce tea chests and, in due course, high quality plywood for furniture manufacture. Work commenced on the construction of the factory at Luchenza, Southern Province, later in the year. It is proposed to supply trial orders of tea chests in 1950 and it is estimated that the full requirements of the Protectorate tea industry will eventually be met. In the second half of 1949 Government granted to the African Export Corporation an exclusive licence to cut and manufacture as paper pulp bango reeds in various extensive areas of the Upper and Lower Shire River. The Corporation intends erecting a factory for the production of paper and paper pulp.

Reference was made in the 1948 Report to the arrival in this Territory of the Colonial Development Corporation and its importance to the Protectorate's economic production drive. During 1949 the Corporation commenced operations and took over from Government the tung development scheme on the Vipya Plateau. In addition to the primary object of producing tung oil, the Corporation is investigating the possibilities of other economic crops, notably wattle and tea in the same locality. In conjunction with the Vipya project is the exploitation of the Limpasa Dambo for mechanised rice production. During the year agreement was reached between Government and the Corporation

whereby a block of land (10,000 acres) in the Kasungu area was leased for the production of flue-cured tobacco. The local Board of the Corporation received authority from London at the end of 1949 to proceed with the scheme and it is proposed to open up 400 acres for planting in the 1950-51 season. A company formed by the Colonial Development Corporation in combination with Ocean Products Limited of South Africa started fishing operations on Lake Nyasa in 1949. The firm, Nyasaland Fisheries Limited, is at present concerning itself almost entirely with predatory fish not hitherto the object of large-scale commercial activities. The Company's main object is to extract oil from fish viscera but it will also engage in all aspects of the fisheries industry. The first consignment of viscera has recently been exported to South Africa for processing. Investigations are also being pursued by the Corporation into the potentialities of the Nyika Plateau for animal husbandry and ranching.

The first Five Year Educational Plan covered 1945 to 1949 inclusive. The new Education Ordinance and Rules, under which it was introduced, brought new life to the schools, a sense of greater security, a clarification of aims and more precision in the relations between grant-aided schools and Government. The second Five Year Educational Plan 1950-54 lays down the lines of further and more rapid advance. Planning in 1949 has been directed to the preparation of detailed schemes, setting out targets for each year, and to considering how to meet staffing and financial commitments. Half the recurrent expenditure of the past five years has been paid from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. During this period educational subvention from public funds has risen from less than £80,000 in the first year to nearly £160,000 in the last.

Smallpox continued to appear in the Central and Southern Provinces throughout the year though on a much reduced scale. The vaccination campaign started in 1948 was continued vigorously and there was no major extension of the outbreaks. Continued progress was made in the anti-venereal disease campaign, substantiated by the increase in the number of cases attending for treatment. The food shortage following upon the drought of 1948-49 had a bearing on the epidemiology. A Medical Officer was placed on full-time duty in connection with the establishment of food distribution centres and an epidemic disease control unit formed to deal with any major outbreak of diseases.

Famine relief measures have tended to overshadow the special attention given to the improvement and expansion of various branches of social welfare. In particular, proposals were considered with a view to forming a Social Welfare Advisory Committee in 1950 whose function will be to deal with welfare problems in the industrial south. An assistant mistress from the Educational Department was seconded to the post of full-time Welfare Officer to co-ordinate and supervise the community work of former students of the Jeanes Centre. Towards the end of 1948 it was decided that the experience gained through the Mponela Mass Education Scheme could best be used by concentrating on an administrative area and setting a team representing all the Development Departments to work in it. An Administrative Officer was placed in charge of the

scheme as District Commissioner; the district team includes European and African representatives of the Health, Education and Land Usage Departments. The running costs of the project are met from a grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds; the actual cost of development work will be met from local sources including a good deal of voluntary effort by the people affected. The Boy Scout and Girl Guide movements made substantial progress during the year. Membership increased and some extremely useful work was carried out by the various troops. Approval was given by Government, and financial provision made, for the appointment of an Organising Commissioner of Boy Scouts in Nyasaland. A feature of social welfare work for the year has been the increasing attention paid by Government to the development of organised activities and wider financial assistance.

Transport and famine relief difficulties did much to restrict trading activities during the year. The revised estimate of expenditure for 1949, set at £2,739,000, did not take into account the expenditure on the importation of famine relief foodstuffs in respect of which an advance account was opened. Revenue estimates were revised at slightly below the original figure, i.e. at £2,732,000. As a further step in the financing of the development programme an export tax came into force during 1949 on both tea and tobacco. It was estimated to produce about £300,000 in a full year. Approval in principle was given by the Secretary of State for the Colonies in 1949 to the raising of a loan on the London market; the amount will be within a maximum of £3,000,000. The money is to be raised in due course and will be used to promote public utilities and to finance future economic development projects in the Protectorate.

The efficiency of the Police has been maintained during the year and the gradual change over to a completely literate Force proceeds smoothly. More than two-thirds of its African members are now literate in English. The total number of cases dealt with by the Police in 1949 represents an increase of 25 per cent over the 1948 figure, but it should not be assumed from this statement that crime in the Protectorate is on the increase. Famine conditions led to a marked rise in the number of thefts reported in the Southern Province, whilst the improved establishment of the Force made an important contribution towards the successful detection of the reported cases. Analysis of the records of these cases proves that a large percentage of the more serious burglaries and house-breakings are committed by recidivists, who have been released or have escaped from prison. A further development intended to improve the mobile efficiency of the Police is the wireless communications scheme for the Southern Province. Four radio stations will be established at various points and from each station it will be possible to work two mobile units.

The prison population has risen steadily since the beginning of the year, particularly at the Central Prison, Zomba. It has been necessary to increase the warder staff and temporary recruitment was made from police and prison personnel. They were trained under the supervision and control of a European officer at the Prison Farm. As a result of the general food shortage a reduction in the daily prison ration became

necessary, yet in spite of the cut, the general health and condition of the prisoners remained good. Accommodation at the Prison Farm was enlarged during 1949 and many more first offenders were transferred from the Central Prison. Improvement was sought in the farm herd of cattle by the purchase of good grade cows from the Government Dairy Farm. In conjunction with the Medical Department, a most commendable scheme has been initiated whereby calves will be provided for the obtaining of vaccine lymph. The work at the farm has been excellent and the standard of discipline remains high. At the Chilwa School, which is under the management of the Department, the inmates numbering 21 at the end of the year continued to receive academic and technical training aimed at converting them into useful citizens.

External communications with the Protectorate remained unsatisfactory, although the completion of the Chiromo Bridge in December will facilitate rail communications in 1950. The hoped-for improvement in the Limbe/Portuguese East Africa Border road did not materialise and progress on the contract to date has been most discouraging. Internal communications, however, have been maintained as well as possible. Five new graders, which arrived late in 1948, made a considerable contribution to more satisfactory road maintenance in 1949. Unfortunately, the heavy rains experienced in December of this year did much to negative the work done earlier on road improvement generally; which only serves to emphasise that even when materials, men and money are available, projects encounter that "unforeseen difficulty" which retards development and progress.

The demand for air transport in Nyasaland has steadily increased during the year, but the lack of adequate telecommunications and passenger handling facilities has hampered operations. To overcome these difficulties, an aeronautical telecommunications scheme has been prepared and work is in hand as recorded earlier on the development of the Blantyre airport to an all-weather standard. An event of major importance in the latter half of the year was the provision of the first regular direct air connection between Nyasaland and the United Kingdom. The British Overseas Airways Corporation flyingboats now use Cape Maclear as one of the regular stopping places on the Solent route to South Africa. Plans which were prepared for a marine airport at Cape Maclear have now been deferred in view of the recent decision on the part of British Overseas Airways Corporation to withdraw flyingboats from the South African route.

The Central African Council met in May, 1949, and of the subjects under consideration one of the most important was the regional organisation of research. Following upon recommendations of the Council, a Standing Research Advisory Committee was formed with the approval of the Governments of the three Territories. Plans were agreed with the Central African Broadcasting Organisation for the expansion of broadcasting and listening facilities for Africans and the distribution of cheap radio receivers to encourage African listening has begun. Proposals include the provision of a small transmitter and studio from which Nyasaland programmes will originate.

The Economic Co-operation Administration of the U.S.A., which is the body responsible for the administration of Marshall Aid, has set aside a part of its funds for specific purposes associated with the development of dependent overseas territories. Nyasaland has already taken advantage of the funds made available from this source for "technical assistance". This scheme enables dependent overseas territories to obtain the services of American personnel when the technical experts required for a particular problem cannot be recruited in Europe. E.C.A. pays the dollar emoluments of such experts, local costs being met by the territory concerned. A geologist has been appointed to Nyasaland under this scheme, and will arrive early in 1950. Topographical and tsetse surveys are planned to start during 1950.

Observations in the tsetse fly belts extending over the past two years have yielded sufficient knowledge of the ecology of the fly to make it possible to plan experimental reclamation schemes in two areas, and these are to be carried out in 1950. Meanwhile defensive measures in the forms of decontamination posts on the main traffic routes passing through the known fly belts continue to be taken.

In the sphere of native administration much attention was devoted during the year to the intended establishment throughout the country of councils for groups of villages. The main object of these local councils is to give the people an opportunity to co-operate with the Government and the Native Authorities in working to improve their own areas. They will also provide channels by which complaints, opinions and requests from the people can reach the Native Authorities and Government, and messages from the latter can reach the people. It is an opportunity for the African to give his services free for the sake of the community. Another important step in native administration has been the introduction of a scheme offering credit facilities to Africans for agricultural and development purposes. The most important provisions of the scheme are that loans are available to deserving Africans who wish to execute any sound development project which is recommended by the technical departmental officer in agreement with the Native Authority and District Commissioner concerned as being of substantial value in a rural area. Loan funds are made available from Native Authorities' Treasuries.

The major schemes in the Protectorate's programme of development have all suffered setbacks during 1949 but it can be recorded that those under way have made progress in spite of difficulties. The year has seen the start of new and equally important projects, reference to which are made in some detail in the second section to the report. Every effort is being made within the limits of the financial resources of the Protectorate to accelerate the rate of economic progress.

PART II

Chapter 1: Population

VITAL statistics are still available only for the European and Asian members of the community. The compulsory notification of African births and deaths was introduced towards the end of 1947, by Native Authority Rules, but the first two years of the system must be regarded as experimental. Recent recruitment of administrative staff means that in future more supervision will be possible for the successful operation of the system. The registration of native customary marriages under Native Authority Rules is now carried out in almost all parts of the Protectorate, but the data thus made available cannot be regarded as complete. It is therefore impossible to speak with any accuracy of trends or problems among the African population, save to say that it is increasing steadily, being estimated at the end of 1949 at about 2,450,000 (including absentees), a figure based upon the 1945 census figures and a normal increase of about 3 per cent per annum. Immigration into the Southern Province from Portuguese East Africa showed a sharp decline in 1949 owing to the acute food shortage. In previous years the influx of natives into the Province from this source has been considerable but it is not thought to affect population as markedly as it did in the past.

The 1945 census was the first to be taken since 1931; it was one of a series which began in 1911, and which has attempted to count and group every human being in the Protectorate. All appropriate details of non-natives were recorded, but so far as the African population is concerned it claimed to be no more than "a useful, and, in the aggregate, a fairly accurate estimate of the African population, based on a count". Between 1921 and 1931 the African population had increased by a third, and the 1945 census showed an increase of rather more than a third on the 1931 figures; the estimated African population had therefore nearly doubled in twenty-five years, but a very considerable proportion of this increase must be attributed to immigration into the Southern Province from Portuguese East Africa. In each 100 of this population there are approximately 51 women to 49 men, but without some knowledge of the number of married men absent from the Protectorate and of the marital state of immigrants it is difficult to draw any conclusions about surplus women or the extent to which they are affected by polygamy.

In 1949 some 146,000 men were estimated to be absent from Nyasaland; this is an increase of about 6,000 on the figure for 1948. These absentees are mainly employed in Southern Rhodesia and South Africa, and the great majority remain in touch with their homes and will return to them, at least for a holiday, within three years of their departure. The increase of 6,000 is due to the greater reluctance of the Nyasas working abroad to return to Nyasaland in view of the drought and the consequent shortage of food. A Migrant Labour Agreement between the three Central African territories, which came into force on 1st January, 1949,

is designed to achieve, among other ends, the compulsory return of migrant labourers to their homes after absences of not more than two years, unless their families are with them abroad.

Some degree of encouragement is now given to the migrant to take his family with him or to send for them when he has settled down at his destination; there is a growing number of children of Nyasa descent on both sides who have been born in Rhodesia and have never seen Nyasaland, and it is to be presumed that in the next generation these will be counted and will count themselves as Rhodesians, apart from family connections.

Of the non-indigenous sections of the population, both the European and the Asian groups are increasing. The former had grown from 314 in 1901 to 1,975 in 1931, and to approximately 3,000 at the end of 1948. Vital statistics for 1949 are not yet available, but immigration returns for the year show that there were 917 Europeans described as "new arrivals"; allowing for some final departures and for an excess of births over deaths the European population is approximately 4,000. The majority of these are between 20 and 60 years of age, as might be expected in a country which, until recently, most Europeans have left on retiring from active business; it may be noted, however, that an increasing number of Europeans are remaining in Nyasaland on retirement. Of those gainfully employed, roughly a quarter each are employed by Government, in missionary service, in commerce and in agriculture. The comparatively large number of recent immigrants is due partly to overdue recruitment of staffs, diminished during the war years, and partly to the very considerable expansion of the activities both of the Government and of private commercial concerns.

The Asian population numbered 520 in 1921, 1,573 in 1931 (of whom only one in seven was female), and 2,804 in 1945. Immigration and a high birth-rate resulted in an increase to approximately 4,000 by the end of 1948; it is estimated that the 1949 figure is about 4,800, of whom more than a third are Nyasaland born. Of this total approximately 3,000 are males and 1,800 are females. During 1949 there were 320 new arrivals. Most of the men of this section of the community are engaged in trading and store-keeping.

There is also a small group of mixed blood, Euro-African and Indo-African. Since many of these are included in the African census returns it is impracticable to give figures of any accuracy, but the total is about 2,000, of whom half are under marriageable age; about a third follow a non-native mode of life. The men are mainly engaged in trading, transport and agriculture; a number of the women obtain employment as children's nurses.

Chapter 2: Occupations, Wages, and Labour Organisation

Nyasaland is an agricultural country, with an economy based on primary production and the preliminary processing of certain of its products.

Almost all workers, including those in regular or pensionable employment, retain the right to a customary holding somewhere in the Protectorate, from which they obtain part of their food requirements and to which they expect in due course to retire. This state of affairs is recognised as undesirable agriculturally, and has a marked effect on labour conditions and problems.

No statistics are available of the numbers employed in subsistence agriculture, but the approximate numbers engaged during 1949 in producing tobacco and cotton on Native Trust land were 102,500 and 47,500 respectively. The production of these crops is largely a family affair and these figures take no account of the labour of wives and other relations, who assist in the field work. Statistics compiled from returns supplied, at the request of Government, by employers of 10 or more Africans give the following figures of persons employed in the major industries. The rendering of returns is voluntary and the figures cannot therefore be considered as complete:

	<i>Estimated full require- ments at peak of season</i>	<i>Actually at work at peak period</i>	<i>At work on 15th November estimated minimum employment date</i>
Tea Growing and Manufacture	40,921	32,312	30,853
Tobacco Growing. . . .	18,163	13,206	10,769
Tobacco Sorting and Packing.	19,565	14,278	6,022
Tung	6,531	3,563	3,540
Mixed Farming	7,005	5,029	4,374
Railways	5,340	4,209	4,776
	<hr/> 97,525 <hr/>	<hr/> 72,597 <hr/>	<hr/> 60,334 <hr/>

Other employments, such as contracting, road transport, light industry and the missions, bring the total peak labour requirements, other than for Government or domestic service, to 110,630, of which 83,069 were in actual employment at the peak period, and 69,788 at the date of minimum employment. These figures do not include the employees of Government, of which the Public Works Department, with an estimated average of 9,000, is the largest employer; nor those employed by the Native Authorities, estimated to amount to a further 4,000. In addition it is estimated that some 9,000 persons (nearly all male) are employed as domestic servants.

Nyasaland has for many years supplied a very considerable number of workers to other territories of Southern, Central and Eastern Africa, where the Nyasa has a high reputation and a range in employment from unskilled labour to the occupation of the highest posts which local conditions and his own training will permit. The number of Africans absent from the Protectorate in 1949 is estimated at 146,000, of whom 87,000 were in Southern Rhodesia and 43,000 in the Union of South Africa. Three hundred Nyasas are employed in the headquarters of the

Tanganyika groundnut project; their occupations vary from clerks, agricultural, survey and medical assistants, field overseers, artisans, dressers, domestic servants, to manual labourers.

The Witwatersrand Native Labour Association is the only organisation which is permitted to contract Nyasaland Africans for work in the Union of South Africa. The Association engages Africans for mining employment on the Rand and Orange Free State gold mines and during 1949 was allowed a quota of 10,000 as the maximum number permitted to be employed on the mines at any one time. The number in employment at the end of 1949 was 8,022 compared with 9,540 at the end of 1948. The decrease was due to the restrictions on recruitment having prevented the replacement of men whose period of service had expired. Apart from three companies who are permitted to recruit small numbers of Nyasas for short seasonal occupation in Southern Rhodesia, the Rhodesia Native Labour Supply Commission was the only holder of a Governor's permit to recruit labour for work in Southern Rhodesia. The Commission is a semi-official body whose recruits are distributed among a number of employers on terms which have received the approval of the Nyasaland Government. The Commission's permit was for 8,000 recruits, of which only 2,248 were actually engaged during the year. These permits require annual renewal and quotas are determined in the light of the local labour conditions and the requirements of Nyasaland's food supply.

These arrangements do not prevent migrants from departing on their own account, although uncontracted Nyasas are prohibited immigrants into the Union of South Africa, which they nevertheless enter in considerable numbers. For the benefit of those who prefer to travel independently a new Migrant Labour Agreement concluded by the Governments of Southern Rhodesia, Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland came into force on 1st January, 1949. Its main provisions are the compulsory return of the migrant worker to his country of origin after two years abroad, the payment of family remittances to his dependents, the deduction from wages of a small monthly sum to be paid as deferred pay on his return home, and free transport to his place of employment and on his repatriation. If a migrant is accompanied by his family—and there is an increasing tendency for these workers to be so accompanied or to send for their families once they have established themselves—the worker is not bound by the two-year limit nor the requirements of family remittances or deferred pay.

The official figure of Nyasas entering Southern Rhodesia in 1949 was 19,477 as compared with 17,392 in 1948, and the total number of Identity Certificates issued or re-endorsed for travel abroad to all destinations showed a slight decline from 33,920 in 1948 to 32,395 in 1949. Nyasaland retains a considerable degree of responsibility for those of its people who emigrate and the Protectorate Government maintains representatives in Johannesburg and Salisbury, both of whom are experienced officers of the Administration. During the year these officers were fully occupied with an increasing volume of business arising from the problems of migrant labour and in visiting centres of employment. In addition they

carry out a variety of duties on behalf of the Government and furnish regular reports on the conditions in the Territories wherein they are stationed and are the channel for domestic enquiries by the migrant worker or by his family left in Nyasaland. Another and very valuable link between the migrant and his home is provided by the missionary societies who keep in touch with their adherents and maintain, with assistance from public funds, two European labour chaplains. A number of former missionaries and retired Nyasaland civil servants in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia give voluntary assistance in a similar way. The labour chaplains travel widely and in addition to ministering to the spiritual needs of the migrant do most valuable work in helping to maintain family ties with his relatives at home. They also provide useful information to Government on labour conditions generally.

The supply of labour for local requirements in Nyasaland was seriously affected by the second planting campaign necessitated by the failure of the 1948-49 rains, which caused many workers to leave their work and return to their villages to plant their gardens. By December, however, with the promise of satisfactory rains for the coming season, the position had returned to normal. In the Limbe and Blantyre areas of the Southern Province firms of contractors found difficulty during August, September and October in obtaining their full requirements of unskilled labourers and tradesmen. Improvement of the conditions of employment, as a result of a review by officers of the Labour Department resulted in a noticeable improvement in the position, and in the last two months of the year the labour demands of all employers in this area were being fully met. Difficulty was again experienced in the northern areas in obtaining the local requirements for public works. By improvement in the local conditions of employment, including the provision of social amenities, which may tend to reduce the number of emigrants, and by encouraging the wage-earner to give up his customary holding of land, which is usually neglected or inefficiently cultivated by his relatives during his absence in employment, Government hopes to secure a stable supply of labour adequate to meet the increasing demands of the development of the Protectorate, at the same time extending the area available for cultivation by the more efficient whole-time farmers.

The hours worked in paid agricultural employment average 30 a week in field work, where the task system is commonly used, but may be as low as 24. The labourer in his own country with responsibilities towards his home and his own crops, does not usually want to work longer hours for any financial inducement, although he will give considerably more work for higher wages when abroad. The Public Works Department cannot maintain constant European supervision of all its labour and is therefore not in a position to give piece-work. The bulk of these labourers work a 45 hour week and usually return to their homes in the afternoons. The labour engaged in the production of crops such as flue-cured tobacco have irregular hours of employment: their European supervisors must often work a night shift as well as a day shift during the busy season, when the fires in the tobacco barns require constant attention to keep an even temperature. Domestic servants have, on the whole, a fairly easy

time, owing to the system of specialisation copied in the early days from similar conditions in India. Apart from regular time off they receive long holidays during the periods when their employers take their vacation leave. The greater demand for the limited number of experienced domestic servants now available, a result of the increase in the number of Europeans in the Protectorate, has led to higher wages, and food allowances have shown a substantial increase because of the rise during 1949 in the cost of African foodstuffs.

The cost of living continued to rise for all classes, although the absence of adequate statistical machinery prevents the correct compilation of indices. The rise was accentuated during the year by the increase in price of almost all local commodities resulting from the failure of the rains, and also the increased cost of imported goods, to which devaluation and other world factors contributed. Salaries of the African Civil Service were increased with effect from 1st January, 1949, and the rate of pay for labourers employed by Government was standardised at 9d per day. All private employers issue food to their labour weekly, or give cash allowances in lieu. This cash allowance was of necessity increased in consequence of the rise in the price of African foodstuffs.

Legislation was passed during the year to establish Advisory Boards for the three provinces of the Protectorate which will provide the machinery for fixing wages and conditions of employment in occupations or industries in which it is considered that wage rates are unreasonably low or conditions of employment unsatisfactory. Specimen monthly wage rates inclusive of food allowances during 1949 were:

<i>Tea</i>				s.	d.		s.	d.
Field Labour	.	.	.	22	6	—	30	0
Overseers	.	.	.	35	0	—	40	0
Semi-skilled Factory Workers	.			27	0	—	40	0
<i>Tobacco</i>								
Field Labour	.	.	.	17	6	—	22	0
Overseers	.	.	.	30	0	—	35	0
Factory Workers	.	.	.	27	0	—	35	0
<i>Public Works Department</i>								
Unskilled Labourers	.	.	.			9d. per day		
Artisans	.	.	.	65	0	—	140	0
<i>Light Industries</i>								
Unskilled Labourers	.	.	.	18	6	—	21	0
Artisans	.	.	.	30	0	—	200	0
<i>Railways</i>								
Unskilled Labourers	.	.	.	24	0	—	26	0
Artisans	.	.	.	30	0	—	150	0

In addition, bonuses are paid in both the tea and tobacco industries and a cost-of-living allowance of 5s a month is paid to railway employees living in Blantyre and Limbe. The junior grades of domestic servants average 10s to £1 per month, and the senior grades such as cooks and headboys £1 to £2 per month. In addition a weekly food allowance

ranging up to 2s. 6d. in the townships is given, and usually free quarters and an issue of clothing, and in some cases fuel as well.

The staff of the Labour Department, including the Nyasaland Government Representatives' offices in Salisbury and Johannesburg comprised 10 Europeans and 41 Africans at the end of the year. A Labour Officer was stationed in the Southern Province throughout the year, but although a further Labour Officer was appointed in 1949 he acted as Labour Adviser owing to the substantive holder of the post being on leave; thus the vacancy for the Central & Northern Provinces remained unfilled. African labour clerks are stationed at all district headquarters; their principal duties are the issue and registration of Identity Certificates and Workbooks for migrant workers proceeding abroad, and they are responsible for the payment of remittances under the Migrant Labour Workbook Scheme. At those district headquarters where there are Registry Offices they record the wants of the employers and particulars of men seeking employment; local conditions and the demand for labour, however, encourage direct contact between potential employers and workers, and little real use is made of the Registry Offices.

The great majority of paid workers in Nyasaland are employed in agriculture or semi-agricultural pursuits and only a fractional proportion of the total are dependent entirely upon wage-earning; if the work is not to their liking they either return to their villages or move on elsewhere; there is no lack of opportunity for the worker, skilled or unskilled, since demand greatly exceeds the supply. It is only in the relatively few non-agricultural undertakings such as transport, tailoring, domestic and Government service that any tendency towards organisation can be observed.

The first two trade unions were registered during the course of the year, a workers' association styled the Nyasaland Association of African Motor Transport Workers and the corresponding employers' association, the Nyasaland Employers (Motor Transport and Traders) Association; joint discussions were taking place at the end of the year with a view to the negotiation of an agreement covering rates of pay and conditions of employment.

This year passed without any serious labour disputes; only seven disagreements of a minor nature were reported. The majority of these were due to lack of contact between workers and employers and were promptly settled by bringing the parties together. No stoppage of work was of more than one day's duration.

Factory legislation continues to operate smoothly. The number of accidents reported was 46; nine of them were fatal, 13 caused permanent partial incapacity, and the remainder caused temporary incapacity. One of the causes of the accidents is the cleaning of machinery while it is in motion; this is, of course, against instructions and is due to non-appreciation of the danger involved.

Other legislation enacted during the course of the year withdrew the approval given during the emergency conditions of the war period for the employment of young persons below the age of 14 years in certain forms of light work in industrial undertakings. Close seasons for the

recruitment of labour for work abroad were fixed as from 1st October to 31st December, 1949, in the Central and Southern Provinces, and from 15th November, 1949, to 15th February, 1950, in the Northern Province. In addition, because of the planting campaign, recruitment in the Southern and Central Provinces was prohibited from 1st to 30th September, 1949.

Rules for the Registration of Trade Unions were published, also Court Rules providing for appeals against decisions of the Registrar of Trade Unions. The Workmen's Compensation Ordinance was amended regarding the procedure for reporting serious and fatal accidents; the amount of compensation payable in cases where the injury causes total permanent incapacity was increased, bringing the Nyasaland legislation into uniformity with that of other African territories.

There is no statutory provision for insurance against sickness or for old age pensions, but all employers of African labour are required to provide medical attention for sick employees and a number of the commercial concerns have their own dispensaries. Where long service has been given many employers arrange for the payment of either small pensions or gratuities on retirement. Pensions can be paid periodically through the Post Office Savings Bank. By tradition the African community has always regarded the care and maintenance of the elderly as a family duty, but experience gained as a result of the severe shortage of foodstuffs during this year shows that this duty has no longer the same compulsion as it used to have. Exemption from native tax is granted to both elderly and infirm Africans who are without means to pay, and provision is made each year in the Protectorate Estimates for the relief of necessitous cases irrespective of race.

Chapter 3: Public Finance and Taxation

The Protectorate's financial year ended on 31st December, and it is therefore impracticable to give complete figures for 1949; a revised estimate only is given. Comparative total figures are:

	<i>Revenue</i>	<i>Expenditure</i>
1948 (Actual) . . .	2,048,732	2,104,893
1949 (Revised Estimate) .	2,732,485	2,738,922

The main heads of revenue and expenditure are as follows:

REVENUE	<i>Actual</i> 1946 £	<i>Actual</i> 1947 £	<i>Actual</i> 1948 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1949 £
Customs	295,392	444,476	543,969	880,000
Taxes, Licences, etc.	525,196	655,828	801,489	901,820
Fees of Court, etc.	33,340	42,347	43,654	43,846
Posts and Telegraphs.	64,461	70,200	64,497	79,350
Rents	4,350	3,942	67,533	32,500
Interest Part (1)	6,067	7,746	13,656	10,253
Miscellaneous	52,337	76,186	89,945	108,162
Total Ordinary Revenue .	981,143	1,300,725	1,624,743	2,055,931

REVENUE—*contd.*

	<i>Actual</i> 1946 £	<i>Actual</i> 1947 £	<i>Actual</i> 1948 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1949 £
Colonial Development and Welfare Act Grants . . .	75,691	65,095	178,126	462,009
Interest Part (2) . . .	189,314	193,577	200,537	181,589
Trans-Zambesia Railway De- benture Interest and Re- demption . . .	32,956	62,450	45,326	32,956
Total Revenue . . .	<u>1,279,104</u>	<u>1,621,847</u>	<u>2,048,732</u>	<u>2,732,485</u>

EXPENDITURE

Agriculture, Forestry and Veterinary . . .	90,361	104,731	160,606	251,600
Education . . .	94,432	110,448	133,334	159,400
Medical . . .	91,113	98,921	142,750	166,400
Provincial and District Ad- ministration . . .	66,017	78,037	92,145	126,900
Public Works Department .	177,756	249,632	407,009	807,737
Public Debt Charges . . .	203,022	212,769	295,234	203,929
Other Services . . .	389,651	501,737	873,815	1,022,956
Total Expenditure . . .	<u>1,112,352</u>	<u>1,356,275</u>	<u>2,104,893</u>	<u>2,738,922</u>

PUBLIC DEBT

The public debt amounts to £3,570,000 made up as follows: £

East African Guaranteed Loan 4½% 1952-72 . . .	2,000,000
East African Guaranteed Loan 3% 1954-74 . . .	1,570,000

The main heads of taxation and the yield from each were as follows:

	<i>Actual</i> 1946 £	<i>Actual</i> 1947 £	<i>Actual</i> 1948 £	<i>Revised</i> <i>Estimates</i> 1949 £
Fines . . .	4,218	3,888	7,185	5,800
Native Tax . . .	191,326	196,531	238,869	250,000
Income Tax . . .	256,346	363,341	402,460	550,000
Non-Native Poll Tax	9,818	11,322	12,516	13,250
Land Tax . . .	2,917	2,185	2,553	2,000
Crown Lands Cotton Tax . . .	786	837	1,032	1,250
Estate Duties . . .	19,809	26,346	73,767	8,000
Licences				
Arms and Ammuni- tion . . .	347	416	490	500
Bankers . . .	120	120	120	120
Bicycles . . .	2,944	3,035	4,743	5,000
Game . . .	309	530	816	800
Liquor . . .	847	896	946	1,000
Miscellaneous . . .	416	454	561	500
Motor Vehicles . . .	8,163	13,857	17,277	25,000
Trading . . .	21,561	23,894	26,078	26,000
Other Stamp Duties	5,269	8,175	12,076	12,600
TOTAL . . .	<u>525,196</u>	<u>655,827</u>	<u>801,489</u>	<u>901,820</u>

Nyasaland, being within the region covered by the Congo Basin Treaties and the Convention of St. Germain-en-Laye, 1919, may not grant preference to any country and its customs tariff therefore applies equally to all imports irrespective of country of origin.

The main revenue producing items in the tariff pay a specific duty and include cotton-piece goods, liquors, tobacco, matches, vehicles, cycles, petrol and fuel oil. *Ad valorem* duty is levied on the c.i.f. Beira basis; goods from contiguous territories are, however, assessed on the cost at the place of despatch. Among articles accorded free entry are machinery, refrigerators, tractors, fertilisers, building materials, medicines and provisions; *bona fide* personal baggage is also free of duty.

Among dutiable articles are the following:

Salt	60s per ton
Sugar	40s per ton
Cigarettes	15s 6d per pound
Tobacco manufactured	12s per pound
Brandy and rum	80s per proof gallon
Whisky and gin	64s per proof gallon
Carpets.	33 $\frac{1}{3}$ per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Cotton piece-goods.	3d or 4d per yard
Silk and artificial piece-goods	6d per yard
Bicycles	15s each
Cutlery.	25 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Electrical appliances	25 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Vehicles	25s to 45s per horsepower
Sewing machines	30s and 40s each
Typewriters	25 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Wireless	5 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Musical instruments	5 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Glassware	25 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Petrol	4 $\frac{1}{4}$ d per gallon
Soap	9s per cwt or 20 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Boots and shoes	10 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Stationery	20 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>
Perfumery	50 per cent <i>ad valorem</i>

Cesses are applied to the export of tea (1s 4d per 100 pounds or part thereof), tobacco (1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per 100 pounds or part thereof) and tung oil (£2 10s per long ton). The proceeds are credited to separate funds and are devoted to the development and benefit of the tea, tobacco and tung industries through the medium of the Tea Association, the Tobacco Association and the Tung Board. Export duties were levied in respect of the 1949 crops of tea (2d per pound) and tobacco (2d per pound leaf, 3d per pound strips), and realised £89,000 and £186,000 respectively.

The only excise duty so far imposed is that on tobacco and cigarettes, amounting to one-fifth of a penny on penny packets containing eight cigarettes, 1d on 3d packets of two ounces of tobacco, and otherwise at 4 $\frac{1}{2}$ d per two ounces with a variable rate on cigarettes. This duty was

imposed early in 1947, and the yield for that year was £26,400. In 1949 £38,000 was collected.

Stamp duties are payable on the usual documents; the revised estimate of the yield from these for 1949 was £12,600 compared with actual receipts of £12,076 in 1948, £8,175 in 1947 and £5,269 in 1946.

A non-native poll tax is payable by all non-native males over eighteen resident in the Protectorate, except visitors; this exception includes persons resident in the country temporarily for business purposes. The tax is £4 for those who are in residence on 1st January, or who arrive before 30th June; those entering between 1st July and 31st December pay only £2 for the year of entry. Anyone failing to pay the tax within three months of becoming liable must pay double the tax originally due. Poll tax for the calendar year in which an income tax assessment year begins is allowed as a deduction from any income tax payable. The revised estimated yield for 1949 was £14,200, compared with actual yields of £12,516 for 1948, £11,322 for 1947 and £9,818 for 1946. Bearing in mind that the tax is paid only by males aged 18 or more, these figures indicate the increasing non-native population.

A poll tax is payable by all male natives resident in Nyasaland and over the apparent age of 18. No native is liable to pay in respect of more than one residence and exemptions may be granted to the aged or infirm, if without means, to immigrant natives living on a private estate with the owner's permission (provided they do not remain in the country for more than 12 continuous months) and to *bona fide* native visitors not employed or seeking employment within the country and not remaining in it for longer than three continuous months; the Governor possesses certain additional powers of exemption. The rate of tax is prescribed by the Governor in Council under the Native Tax Ordinance of 1939, and is variable; in 1949 the rate throughout the Protectorate (except for two small islands in Lake Nyasa) was 10s, of which the Native Treasuries received 2s for every tax paid in their respective areas; this forms by far the largest single item of their revenue. An additional local education rate of a shilling, payable at the same time as the Protectorate tax of 10s, was levied in 1949. This shilling educational rate is credited direct to the funds of Native Treasuries for the provision and extension of educational facilities in their areas. By agreement with the Governments of Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia 10s was credited to Nyasaland in respect of each Rhodesian tax paid during the year by natives of Nyasaland origin. The tax is collected by native tax collectors working under the direction of the Native Authorities and the general control of the District Commissioners. The estimated yield for 1949 was £250,000 compared with an actual revenue of £238,869 for 1948, £196,531 for 1947 and £191,326 for 1946; in years previous to 1948 the rates payable varied by districts from 7s 6d to 9s so that the bulk of the increase in revenue from this source from 1948, is due to the increase in the rate of tax.

Income tax is payable by non-natives only. In calculating the chargeable income of an individual a personal deduction of £500 is allowed to a married man and £250 to a single person. A deduction of £120 is allowed for each child up to a maximum of four (£480); other allowances

may be granted for dependents, life insurance and, in certain circumstances, vacation expenses.

Income tax on companies, public and private, local or otherwise, is at a flat rate of 7s 6d in the £. There is nothing in the nature of a profits tax over and above the income tax.

The latest revised estimate of revenue from income tax in 1949 was £570,000, compared with actual receipts of £402,453 in 1948, £363,341 in 1947 and £256,285 in 1946. The principal factor contributing to the marked increase recorded in 1949 was that of improved incomes resulting from trading and planting in the previous year.

Income tax, including surtax, payable by individuals in three different categories, at various income points, for the assessment year 1949-50, based on 1948 incomes, was as follows:

<i>Income</i>	<i>Single Person</i>			<i>Married Man</i>			<i>Married Man with 2 Children</i>		
£	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
300 . . .		—			—			—	
400 . . .	5	7	6		—			—	
500 . . .	13	10	0		—			—	
600 . . .	23	10	0	2	5	0		—	
700 . . .	35	7	6	8	10	0		—	
800 . . .	49	2	6	18	10	0		—	
900 . . .	65	7	6	28	10	0	6	0	0
1,000 . . .	84	2	6	42	5	0	14	10	0
1,500 . . .	187	5	0	131	0	0	86	0	0
2,000 . . .	327	17	6	249	15	0	189	15	0
3,000 . . .	662	5	0	568	10	0	490	10	0
5,000 . . .	1,487	5	0	1,368	10	0	1,266	10	0
7,500 . . .	2,718	10	0	2,593	10	0	2,473	10	0
10,000 . . .	4,124	15	0	3,968	10	0	3,833	10	0
29,751 *	17,469	4	6						
30,001 *				17,469	4	6			
30,241 *							17,469	4	6

* These are the points at which maximum rates of income tax and surtax (*i.e.* 14s 6d in the £) become payable.

In all the above amounts a deduction of £4 for non-native poll tax set off is taken into account.

The payment of estate duty in the Protectorate is governed by the Estate Duty Ordinance, 1946. On a person's death estate duty is payable under this Ordinance on all property in the Protectorate beneficially owned by the deceased at the date of his death and, if the deceased was domiciled in Nyasaland at that date, all personal property so owned by the deceased wherever situated. During recent years there has been a steady increase in the number of persons who have taken up their domicile in Nyasaland, and consequently, since the Estate Duty Ordinance was introduced, considerable sums have been collected by way of estate duty from the estates of such persons. The Ordinance contains a provision

for relief against the payment of "double duty" in the Protectorate and the United Kingdom and British territories with reciprocal legislation, such as Southern and Northern Rhodesia. No duty in the nature of legacy or succession duty is leviable. Estates not exceeding £100 are exempt from duty and executors have the option of paying a fixed duty of 30s on estates not exceeding £300 and 50s on estates between £300 and £500. Examples of estate duty payable are as follows:

Estates exceeding £100 but not exceeding £500	.	£1 per cent
„ „ £1,000 „ „ „ £5,000	.	£3 „ „
„ „ £25,000 „ „ „ £30,000	.	£10 „ „
„ „ £100,000 „ „ „ £120,000	.	£20 „ „

The total estate duty collected in 1949 was £10,640, as compared with £73,795 in 1948, £26,345 in 1947, £19,809 in 1946 and £2,869 in 1945. The collection of estate duty is undertaken by the Lands Officer as Secretary to the Estate Duty Commissioners.

STATEMENT OF ASSETS

		LIABILITIES				
		£	s.	d.	£	s.
DRAFTS					915	
E.A. Guaranteed Loan: Unexpended Balance					459,577	
DEPOSITS						
C.D. and Welfare Grants (b)		32,985	1	4		
Guaranteed Loan Grant-in-Aid		14,806	14	8		
Miscellaneous		53,472	13	7		
Cotton Crop Purchases		264,745	18	9		
					366,010	
SPECIAL FUNDS						
Administrator General		158,191	11	10		
Custodian of Enemy Property		2,678	11	5		
Ewing Bequest Library Fund		1,040	2	3		
Native Development and Welfare Fund		241,412	7	7		
Post Office Savings Bank		427,700	1	8		
Ruarwe Trust Fund		537	7	2		
A. J. Storey Memorial Fund		379	19	8		
Widows' and Orphans' Pension Fund		53,028	17	7		
Tobacco Cess Fund		3,084	0	5		
Tea Cess Fund		4,852	10	11		
Tung Cess Fund		42	8	8		
Bankruptcy Contingency Fund		54	9	11		
Official Receiver		289	11	5		
Fines Fund		389	13	8		
					893,681	
INTEREST FREE LOAN						
WAR SURPLUS RESERVE ACCOUNT					6,100	
WAR SAVING CERTIFICATES					635,000	
POST-WAR CREDIT RESERVE ACCOUNT					57,927	
GUARANTEED LOAN, INVESTMENT ACCOUNT					1,676	
GENERAL REVENUE BALANCE AT 1.1.1949		603,889	16	11	54,081	
Surplus and Deficit Account		109,881	2	9		
					713,770	
CONTINGENT LIABILITIES		£	s.	d.		
Imperial Loan to meet 1914/18 War Expendi- ture:						
Local		42,000	0	0		
War Office Loan		55,499	7	5		
		£97,499	7	5		
					TOTAL	£3,188,741

NOTE: (a) The following Stocks and Shares not included in the statement of assets are held by the Crown Agents for the Colonies on behalf of Government in respect of:

(i) The Trans-Zambesia Railway Guarantee—

150,000 Ordinary £1 Shares Trans-Zambesia Railway
£754,671 os 10d 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock.
£1,500,000 5% Income Debenture Stock.

(ii) Loan Funds—

£800,287 Nyasaland Railways 5% "B" Income Debenture Stock.

ILITIES AT 30TH JUNE, 1949

ASSETS				£	s.	d.	£	s.	d.
Banks and with Sub-Accountants.	.	.	.	141,166	19	5			
th Agencies	.	.	.	2,436	10	2			
Transit	.	.	.	14,854	9	6			
th Joint Colonial Fund	.	.	.	815,000	0	0			
prests	.	.	.	25,110	0	0			
							998,567	19	1
NCES									
her Governments	.	.	.	905	16	0			
scellaneous	.	.	.	423,888	19	8			
							424,794	15	8
AL FUNDS—INVESTMENTS									
ministrator-General	.	.	.	129,098	3	11			
stodian of Enemy Property	.	.	.	1,599	5	9			
ing Bequest Library Fund	.	.	.	1,040	2	3			
tive Development and Welfare Fund	.	.	.	216,859	0	7			
st Office Savings Bank.	.	.	.	424,027	13	2			
arwe Trust Fund	.	.	.	537	7	2			
J. Storey Memorial Fund	.	.	.	379	19	8			
dows' and Orphans' Pension Fund.	.	.	.	47,993	16	4			
bacco Cess Fund	.	.	.	1,512	10	0			
							823,047	18	10
RIAL GOVERNMENT									
erest Free Loan: Public Subscriptions	.	.	.	6,100	0	0			
er Savings Certificates	.	.	.	58,671	0	0			
							64,771	0	0
OFFICE SUSPENSE ACCOUNT	.	.	.				15,790	19	6
TMENTS—GENERAL (a)									
st Africa Guaranteed Loan	.	.	.	54,081	5	0			
rplus Fund	.	.	.	167,029	13	0			
r Surplus Reserve	.	.	.	640,657	10	1			
							861,768	8	1
TOTAL				£3,188,741 1 2					

: (a) contd.

£48,350 Nyasaland Railways 5% "C" Income Debenture Stock.

£1,958,387 Nyasaland Railways "Bridge" Debenture Stock.

£182,565 19s 2d Trans-Zambesia Railway 3½% First Mortgage Debenture Stock.

(b) A sum of £17,395 14s 2d is due from Colonial Development and Welfare Act Funds.

Chapter 4: Currency and Banking

Nyasaland is a member of the Southern Rhodesian Currency Board, whose notes, in denominations of £5, £1, 10s, and 5s, and silver and cupro-nickel coins are legal tender, as is the coinage of the United Kingdom. At 31st December, 1949, Southern Rhodesia currency on issue to Nyasaland amounted to £1,952,619.

Deposits in the Post Office Savings Bank rose steadily in spite of the difficulties resulting from famine conditions. The activities of the co-operative societies, however, were restricted by the shortage of ready money for investment.

Two commercial banks, the Standard Bank of South Africa and Barclays Bank (Dominion, Colonial and Overseas) operate in the Protectorate. The former has four branches, at Blantyre, Zomba, Limbe and Lilongwe, and the latter three, at Zomba, Blantyre and Limbe. The Post Office Savings Bank has thirty-nine branches and deposits amounted to £451,000 at the end of 1949 compared with £372,000 at the end of 1948 and £295,000 at the end of 1947. This increase of £79,000 over last year's figure is mainly due to the depositing of arrears of salary, resulting from the implementation of the Fitzgerald Commission Report. There were over 14,000 depositors as compared with 13,000 in 1948 and 11,304 in 1947. It is interesting to note that the effects of the food shortage in November and December, 1949, reduced deposits rather than increased withdrawals. During those two months withdrawals showed no change on the previous year, whereas deposits declined by £9,000 from £27,000 in 1948 to £18,000 in 1949.

Chapter 5: Commerce

Trade continued to expand during 1949 in spite of the serious drought in the Southern Province and in other parts of the Protectorate.

The Railway handled more tonnage than ever before, a great achievement considering the difficulties experienced in trans-shipment at Chiromo, where in 1948 the bridge was carried away.

A feature in 1949 was the increase in trade from the Far East, chiefly Hong Kong. Imports of general merchandise from Japan increased towards the close of the year. Of the total imports by value, 55 per cent originated in the United Kingdom, 18 per cent in the rest of the Commonwealth, and 27 per cent in foreign countries.

Imports, excluding bullion and specie, were valued at £5,592,000 against £4,340,000 in 1948, and exports, including re-exports and excluding bullion and specie, at £4,730,000 against £4,212,000 in 1948. The adverse balance of trade is mainly due to large non-recurrent imports of industrial machinery, new factory installations, expensive equipment for development programmes and to the embargo on the exports of food crops and animal feeding stuffs.

The most notable increases in imports were in industrial machinery, the value of which rose from £198,000 in 1948 to £378,000 in 1949; iron

and steel manufactures from £186,000 to £292,000; vehicles and parts from £490,000 to £727,000. Cotton-piece goods fell from 14,000,000 yards to 10,600,000 yards, mainly due to saturation of the market in 1947 and 1948 and to fear of reduced purchasing power resulting from the year's drought. Of this 6,000,000 yards came from the United Kingdom, 2,280,000 yards from India, 826,000 yards from Japan, 625,000 yards Japan/United Kingdom processed and 287,000 from the United States of America. Postal parcel traffic again increased considerably, showing a rise in value from £107,000 in 1948 to £122,000 in 1949.

With the exception of tobacco the principal export crops suffered badly from the long period of dry weather. This was particularly evident in tea, cotton, rice and groundnuts; the necessary prohibition on the export of food crops was another contributing factor in the considerably reduced weight of export tonnage. Tobacco rose from 11,923 short tons valued at £2,250,000 in 1948 to 12,745 short tons valued at £3,151,000 in 1949. Tea fell from 7,535 short tons (value £1,350,000) to 6,385 short tons (value £1,171,000), cotton lint from 2,453 short tons (value £369,000) to 1,465 short tons (value £218,000).

An interesting feature of the year was the re-opening of the corundum deposits, closed in 1947, and the resuscitation of the nicotine sulphate industry, two valuable market products.

The new railway bridge over the Shire River at Chiromo has been completed and new railway rolling stock and much needed locomotives have arrived, factors that will help in keeping pace with expanding trade.

Tobacco and cigarette manufacture continues to expand and is becoming a major local industry. In 1949, 700,000 pounds of tobacco were manufactured at a value of £150,000, from which £39,000 was collected in excise duty. Another important local industry is soap manufacture which amounted to 872 tons valued at £85,000 in 1949. It is thought that production of coarse or common soap may shortly be able to meet all local requirements. The manufacture of sisal rope and twine is developing; apart from exports, which in 1949 amounted to 93 short tons valued at £9,000, there is a considerable home demand. The local boat building yard produced 13 boats during the year. These secondary industries meet essential though limited local needs and are being usefully developed on a small scale.

The general picture of Nyasaland's external trade for 1949, as expressed in the foregoing, is satisfactory. Despite the drought and transport difficulties a greater volume of trade was recorded than in 1948, a tribute to the resourcefulness of those connected with trade and industry. It is impossible at present to estimate what effect future development programmes, public and private, may have on the country's economy, but as they continue they will fortify the purchasing power of the African.

Internal trade during the year suffered from the famine conditions prevailing, money being reserved by the Africans to purchase food rather than consumer goods. An increasing percentage of stores is now owned by Africans, but the bulk of retail trade is handled by Asians and Europeans.

The development of the co-operative movement was limited to the registration of 10 new consumer societies as compared with 29 in 1948. Societies on the whole showed satisfactory turnovers; one successful society, the Jeanes Co-operative Society Limited, recorded a turnover of £1,420 and realised a net profit of £142.

Continued commercial development is reflected in the figures previously given for imports in industrial machinery, factory installations, and capital equipment for development programmes.

Chapter 6: Production¹

The failure of the 1948-49 rains to a degree probably not experienced since Europeans first came to Nyasaland, and certainly not since the disastrous season in 1922, caused a food shortage in parts of the Protectorate which was most acute in the Fort Johnston, Port Herald and Zomba Districts of the Southern Province and on the Lakeshore areas of the Dedza and Dowa Districts of the Central Province. Africans, Asians and Europeans, from large estates down to the individual householder, co-operated with an enthusiasm reminiscent of war-time Britain in the drive to increase food production. Extensive replanting, assisted by scanty though welcome rainfall, prolonged rather unusually into the month of May, averted a catastrophe which was widely feared to be inevitable. Cassava and sweet potatoes, planted on a large scale as soon as it became evident that a fraction only of the normal yield of maize could be expected, did much to improve the food situation in the closing months of the year.

One point of sociological interest has emerged from the food shortages. As the Indian peasant resisted the introduction of imported grains when Burma's rice production collapsed through Japanese occupation, so the Nyasaland African, even under the pressure of hunger, showed considerable reluctance to change from his predominantly maize diet and even evinced a marked preference for flour milled from white-seeded rather than yellow-seeded maize. Nevertheless, in the Central Province there has been one departure from this conservatism in the consumption by Africans of European potatoes and wheat, hitherto grown almost exclusively for sale to the European population. There was every indication at the end of the year that the African cultivators were preparing to increase considerably the area under European potatoes.

Tobacco production proved better than expected in the early part of the season. A total of approximately 15½ million pounds of leaf was cured and marketed, by Africans from native trust land. This unexpected figure is largely due to the spreading of the planting season, as a result of the drought, over a period of two months and the consequent maturing of the crop over a similar length of time. In a normal season there is a short planting and maturing period and the inadequate curing barn accommodation with which the growers provide themselves is insufficient

¹ All quantities are in short tons except where stated to the contrary.

to cope with the crop in the time available. This year the more gradual flow of leaf to the barns enabled a far greater proportion to be cured than in normal years. The leaf too was heavier than had been expected and more than made up in body what it lacked in length—the dry weather having reduced the incidence of disease. In addition the African tobacco grower, displaying an attitude of mind not uncommon in the white farmer elsewhere, bestows more care upon his revenue-producing cash crops in a difficult season than upon his food crops. He looks to others to sell him his food should the need arise.

Dark fired and sun/air cured tobacco are produced both by natives and Europeans and the superior grades find a ready market in the United Kingdom. A substantial trade with West Africa is also being developed. Total production, including the native trust land figure quoted above amounted in 1949 to 26 million pounds. Nyasaland was the first Empire country to export tobacco to Great Britain—40 pounds in 1893. In 1949 the United Kingdom took nearly 18 million pounds of Nyasaland tobacco.

Following the record cotton crop harvested in 1948, the 1949 crop proved to be the smallest in recent years. In the main producing area of the Lower River such planting as took place was two months later than usual and, since the mid-season rains which are normally experienced failed to materialise, the plants remained stunted and yielded very sparingly. Total production for the year is unlikely to exceed 2,300 bales. The Protectorate's cotton production, formerly grown by Europeans, is now almost entirely in native hands. A further planting drive was undertaken at the beginning of the 1949–50 season; unfortunately the late arrival of the rains stunted the early growth, and future prospects are not encouraging.

Tea and tung, in contrast to cotton, are grown exclusively on European owned estates, for the African prefers to confine himself to those crops which show a quick return on his outlay. While the total of European-grown tobacco is still well below the pre-war and early war years, tea and tung production figures are far above.

Since the end of the war and the removal of the restrictions on the planting of tea, considerable new planting has taken place and new records of production must result when this comes into bearing. Tea exports for the year 1949 totalled 6,385 tons. A small quantity is exported to neighbouring African territories, but the bulk goes to the United Kingdom. The effect of the abnormally hot dry weather in reducing the flush of tea is reflected in the reduced export figure compared with the previous year's total of approximately 7,500 tons.

New acreages of tung have also been planted annually since the crop was introduced into the Protectorate about fifteen years ago and excellent new plantations are coming into bearing. Steady increases in tung oil production may therefore be looked for in future years, though during the last two years it has been below expectation. For the year ending 31st May, 1949, the exportable oil amounted to 240 tons. The area under tung exceeded 16,000 acres, but less than half of this was in bearing.

The Department of Agriculture's Tung Experimental Station has carried out an increasing amount of research on the production of improved planting material and the cultivation and fertiliser requirements of tung; an extensive programme of research on tung diseases is being pursued by the Department's plant pathologist in collaboration with the Station staff. In particular, work is proceeding on the investigation of a shoot die-back disease which has been found to be caused by a fungus *Botriosphaeria spp.* and may well become a serious menace to the Protectorate's tung industry unless adequate control measures are discovered.

The Colonial Development Corporation has taken over the tung development scheme in the Vipya Highlands of the Northern Province, primary development of which had been undertaken by the Department of Agriculture. The Corporation is investigating the possibilities of other economic crops in the same locality, notably wattle and tea, and is preparing to conduct experiments with a wide variety of other products. Attached to the Vipya scheme is a scheme, now in progress, for mechanised rice production in the Limpasa Dambo; as an additional venture the Corporation is preparing to undertake the production of flue-cured tobacco in the Kasungu District of the Central Province.

As already mentioned the emphasis throughout the country was on emergency food production following the failure of the early crops and one aspect of this campaign was the development of Government Food Farms. By the end of the year 1,000 acres had been cleared and sown with maize, millet, rice, sorghum and other crops. The Protectorate produced no surplus foodstuffs for export, and the fall in production is shown by the greatly reduced quantities passing through the native produce markets. Maize in the Central and Northern Province markets totalled just over 5,000 tons: the Southern Province had no surplus. Rice amounted to less than 800 tons. The Northern Province produced a surplus of about 150 tons of pulses but elsewhere the crop was negligible; groundnuts were an almost complete failure throughout the Protectorate.

A number of other minor economic crops may be mentioned. The commercial production of rubber, now confined to one estate in the Northern Province, totalled about 50 tons. About 30 tons of sisal were exported. The production of coffee, which in the early days of the Protectorate was considered its most promising economic crop, has fallen away through disease and other causes until its export is measured in pounds instead of tons. Coffee is another crop disliked by the African cultivator by reason of its long-term character, and bushes are often impatiently abandoned long before they come into production. Recent high prices, however, seem to have led to a change in attitude, and every opportunity is being taken to foster this re-awakened interest.

The Protectorate is undertaking research into a number of agricultural problems as far as its resources allow with financial assistance from the Colonial Development and Welfare Fund. Reference has already been made to the Tung Experimental Station. A similar station devoted to the investigation of all aspects of tea culture, established at Mlanje some

fifteen years ago, is being extended by the development of a recently acquired block of land. This extension will be developed and managed on commercial lines and will at the same time be used for large-scale demonstrations of planting practices and scientifically controlled experiments. As a preliminary, more than 400,000 tea seedlings have been established in the Tea Station's nurseries during the year.

Much other experimental work in the form of seed and variety trials and fertiliser experiments is being undertaken at many Department of Agriculture Stations. Research on cotton problems is carried out by the Empire Cotton Growing Corporation at its station near Salima on the shores of Lake Nyasa. The main agricultural research station, however, is at Lilongwe, the headquarters of the Central Province, and 1949 has seen considerable progress in the development of this new station. Special emphasis will be placed on tobacco; but it is at the same time designed to be a general experimental station for the Protectorate. As on other stations, attention is being paid to the improvement of food crops. Much of the work of the plant breeder, recently appointed, will be devoted to this aspect of research.

Agricultural production, however, cannot benefit from research without adequate measures of preserving soil fertility. To this end soil conservation teams have been at work in every Province combating soil erosion and persuading cultivators to abandon destructive agricultural methods. From some areas a lack of co-operation, sometimes approaching obstruction, is reported, and only determined and unremitting pressure ensures progress. That general progress has been achieved seems to be borne out by the opinion of Dr. M. G. Cline, one of the three American agriculturists who visited Nyasaland under E.C.A. auspices in 1949. He stated that the Protectorate ranked with Uganda as to general accomplishment and effectiveness, and was among the top two or three territories visited.

A census of livestock taken in 1949 showed that there were 289,866 cattle, 50,444 sheep, 249,048 goats, 91,231 pigs, 64 horses, 159 mules, in the Protectorate. Poultry figures, excepting the Karonga district for which no census has been made, are given as 1,642,349. The increase in cattle population for the year is greatest in the Central Province, which shows a rise of nearly 19,000 over the 1948 figures. A decrease of about 2,400 is reported from the Karonga district due to drought conditions. The largest meat consuming area, the Southern Province, has a very small cattle population of 29,000, and is only able to draw for external supplies on the Central Province; East Coast Fever in the Mzimba district being the bar to land transportation from the main cattle areas of the Karonga district and lack of transport facilities at present prevent their evacuation by lake and rail. A small market for Karonga cattle exists in Tanganyika, the export figures for 1949 being 3,518; an increase of 1,587 on the previous year's figures, largely due to the necessity of selling cattle to purchase food.

There is practically no external trade in animal products, some 30 tons of hides and skins being the only export during the year. This total, which compares with 28½ tons in 1948, represents only those hides and

skins prepared at slaughter centres. The great bulk of hides and skins from animals slaughtered in native areas do not come on to the market because of a lack of buying organisations in the more remote areas.

The main animal products in internal trade are meat and ghee. The slaughter figures for the larger centres amounted to 6,239 cattle, 8,612 sheep and goats, and 239 pigs, compared with 6,725 cattle, 4,431 sheep and goats, and 571 pigs in 1948. The numbers killed in native areas for home consumption, and not recorded, must be very considerable. There is also a large consumption of poultry for which there is no record. Production of ghee amounted to 25½ tons, an increase of 4½ tons on 1948 production. Drought conditions had a double effect on ghee production; a decreased milk yield and the necessity for cattle owners to use milk increasingly for food owing to the failure of food crops. The overall increase in production can therefore be considered encouraging. Other dairy products were affected by drought conditions, the position being further aggravated by an inability to import normal supplies of concentrates due to neighbouring drought-stricken countries wishing to conserve their own supplies. An increasing non-native population also caused an extra demand for these commodities and butter and eggs were in short supply. There is, however, a welcome sign that farmers in the Southern Province are attempting to increase supplies.

The tanning and cobbling courses usually conducted in the Central Province had to be abandoned during 1949 owing to the adverse food situation. It is intended that these courses will be resumed in 1950 and that a further extension of this work will be commenced in the Northern Province, where the necessary building construction is in hand.

The total area of forest and woodland in Nyasaland is estimated to be about 7,000 square miles, of which 2,754 square miles is State Forest Reserve. Owing to the markedly seasonal climate most of this forest consists of dry open woodland similar to that which covers a large part of the surrounding territories, but true closed forest is found to a limited extent in the areas of high rainfall, mostly as isolated relic patches on mountain tops and along stream banks. There is no doubt that the character of the forest vegetation has been greatly altered and modified over a long period by almost universal cultivation and burning, and the present small patches of true forest are only relics of much larger areas. In spite of their limited extent these forests are rich in useful timber species notably the conifers, Mlanje cedar (*Widdringtonia whytei*), pencil cedar (*Juniperus procera*), of which one small forest still remains on the Nyika plateau, and yellowwood (*Podocarpus milanjanus*). The Mlanje cedar has provided the bulk of the constructional timber used in Nyasaland ever since the 1890's. Of hardwoods the most valuable are mahogany (*Khaya nyasica*), a furniture wood which grows along stream banks and reaches a very large size, its associate mwenya (*Adena microcephala*), a useful and durable constructional timber, and mlombwa (*Pterocarpus angolensis*) found in the dry forests, the most valuable furniture wood of Central Africa. Many other useful kinds, including the African blackwood or ebony (*Dalbergia melanoxylon*), used for curios and ornaments, are found in the dry forests but rarely in sufficient quantity to allow

large-scale working by modern methods. Almost the entire production of these timbers is done by native hand-sawyers.

The most valuable stands of timber in the country are found in the Mlanje Mountain forest reserves and in the Misuku Hills in Karonga district. The latter contain a valuable mahogany stand and other timbers, which have so far not been worked owing to their inaccessibility.

A very wide range of exotic trees can be grown in Nyasaland, including many species of pine, cypress and eucalyptus, all of which show very fast growth compared with the indigenous kinds. Eucalyptus plantations are a feature of the landscape in the uplands of the Southern Province where they are extensively grown on private estates for poles and firewood. The Imperial Tobacco Company owns large plantations of *Eucalyptus saligna* which is sawn in the company's mill and used for the manufacture of tobacco hogsheads.

Planting by the Forestry Department has been on a comparatively small scale until recently, most of the work being in the nature of experiment and investigation of exotic and indigenous species. In 1949 there were 3,500 acres of Government plantations located at Zomba, Limbe, Mlanje and Dedza. Afforestation at these and other centres is now proceeding at the rate of 1,000 acres a year, under a Colonial Development and Welfare grant. This is being done chiefly with conifers in order to build up and maintain an adequate supply of all-purpose softwood. Eucalyptus and indigenous hardwoods are also being grown; 500 acres were successfully established in 1949 in spite of the unprecedented drought.

Demand now generally exceeds the supply alike of sawn timber, poles and firewood. In addition, there is a large demand for plywood tea chests and tobacco box shooks which cannot be produced locally and have to be imported. A company, the Nyasaland Plywood Company, has been registered and is engaged on constructing a mill at Luchenza to manufacture tea chests and plywood from hitherto unused indigenous species.

It is estimated that it will not be possible fully to supply the demand for box-shooks until the new softwood plantations begin to yield appreciable quantities of sawable thinnings in about ten to fifteen years' time.

Building timber was produced by four agencies during the year, namely by the Forestry Department working on Mlanje and Zomba Mountains for Government supply, by the Nyasaland Timber and Trading Company on Mlanje, by the Trevor Construction Company on Zomba Mountain, and by C. Comello and Company in Port Herald district. The three private concerns have installed primitive sawing machinery, but the Departmental output is still handsawn.

Production of softwoods in 1949 was 176,678 cubic feet in the round and of hardwoods from all sources 300,000 cubic feet in the round (estimated).

Timber, mostly eucalyptus tobacco shooks, was exported in 1949 to the value of £15,678.

There was an unprecedented demand for firewood for burning bricks. The quantity of timber, poles and firewood taken from private lands by the owners and from native trust lands by the native population for domestic use is not known.

The only minor forest products of any importance are charcoal, burnt by natives near the main townships where it is in great demand; strophanthus, a wild shrub, the seeds of which are collected in the Shire Valley and exported; and beeswax. The value of exports of strophanthus and beeswax in 1949 was £933 and £963 respectively.

The severe food shortage in the Protectorate during 1949 made it necessary to make the fullest use of all available local sources of food. Accordingly it was decided that the protective measures introduced in the southern waters of Lake Nyasa during 1948 must be relaxed. This action, though something of a set back to the fishery in the south-east arm, is unlikely to have affected the fishing in the Lake as a whole. The failure of the rains is more likely to have a serious direct effect in inhibiting the spawning of those species which habitually spawn in the rivers when they are in flood.

The fishery for predatory fish is gradually getting under way and useful catches have been made. The first consignment of fish livers has been sent to South Africa for extraction of oil. In due course, if landings justify the plant, it is expected that extractions will be carried out locally.

A start has now been made in the bulk purchase and resale of fishing gear to African fishermen. It is hoped that this will lead, by gradual stages, to the establishment of fishermen's co-operative purchasing societies and a big increase in African fishing.

The co-operative movement in Nyasaland has been hard hit by the famine conditions prevailing in 1949, and by a lack of supervision due to delay in obtaining sufficient staff for the department. Consumer societies in particular have had a disappointing year. Money has not been plentiful, and has been reserved to purchase food rather than consumer goods. Furthermore, the lack of an organisation for the distribution of wholesale supplies in the Northern Province has held back development in that area. The turn-over by consumer societies has amounted to £13,355, the gross profit to £2,168, and the net profit to £857, while the accumulated reserve funds amount to £724.

Ten new societies were registered in 1949—five consumer societies, and five societies of cattle owners engaged in the manufacture of ghee. Of the ghee producer societies registered in 1949, two are situated in the Mzimba District and are members of the Kasitu Valley Ghee Producers. The remainder, in the Fort Hill area of the Karonga District, have not yet started business.

The Kasitu Valley Ghee Producers' Co-operative Society, Limited, had a satisfactory year. The society handled some 16,000 pounds of ghee and showed a net profit of £65. This society was inspected in May and October, 1949, and audited in January, 1950. It has, therefore, managed a complicated business with the minimum of supervision.

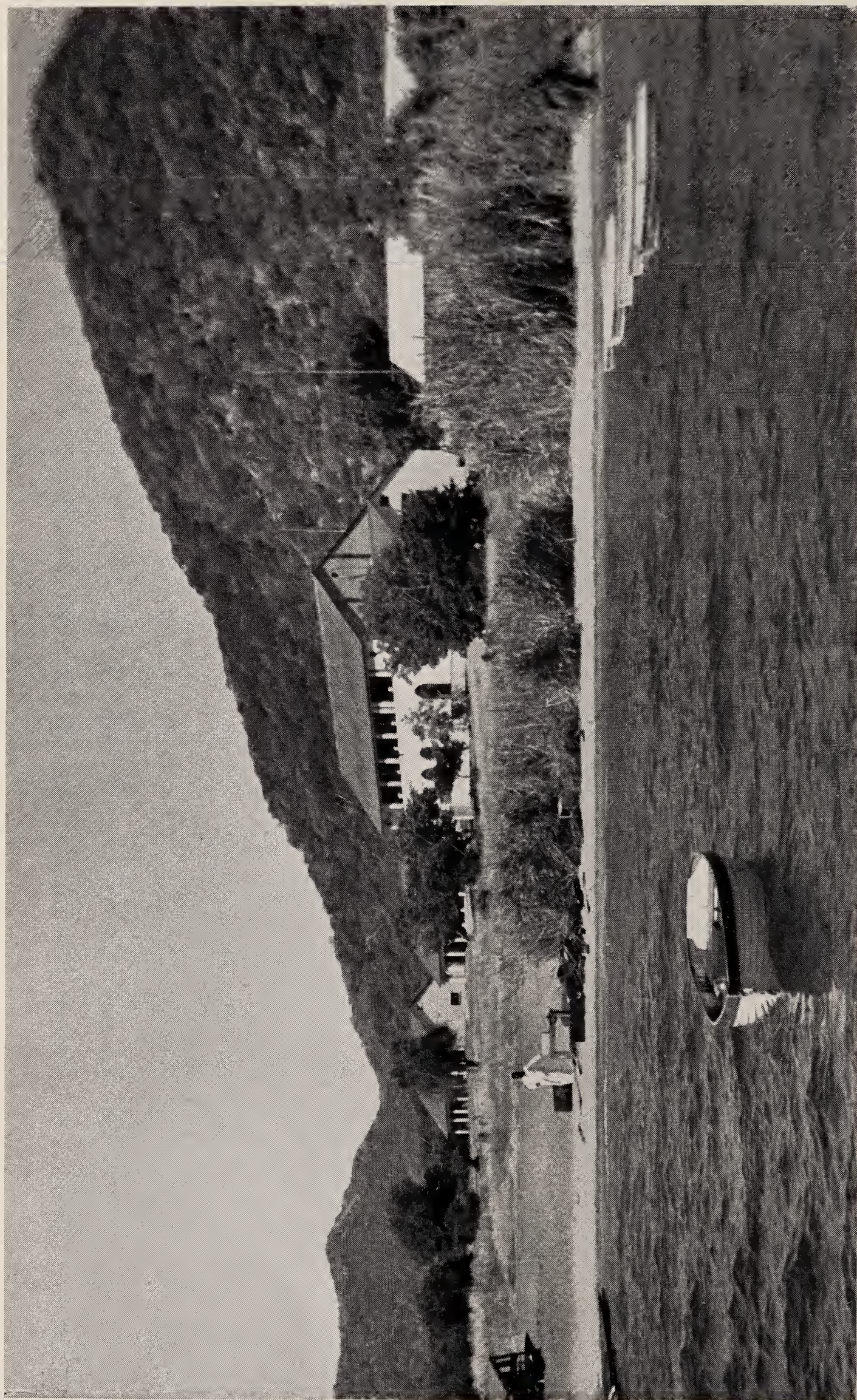
One interesting development has been a consumer society which has undertaken maize milling. This is a type of society which it is hoped to develop in the future.

Of the known mineral resources the most important are the coalfields at Livingstonia and the clays of Lake Malombe which may be suitable for cement. During the year the Senior Geologist continued mapping

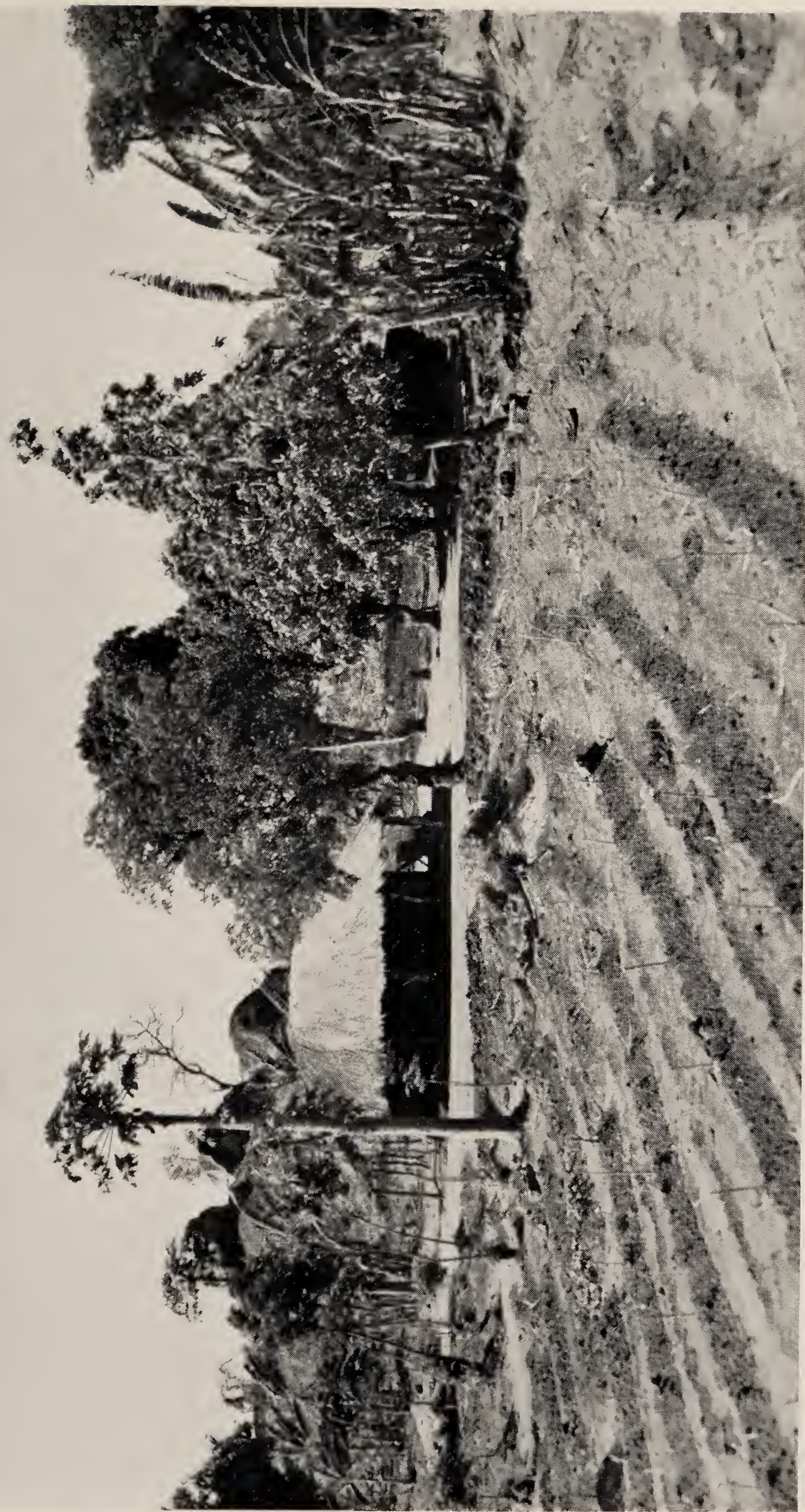


A VIEW OF BLANTYRE

Blantyre and its sister township of Limbe are the commercial and industrial centres of Nyasaland



CAPE MACLEAR, LAKE NYASA



AN AFRICAN HOMESTEAD

with its mango, banana and paw-paw trees, and maize garden ready for planting



A VISIT BY MEMBERS OF THE AFRICAN PROTECTORATE COUNCIL TO
THE GOVERNMENT PRINTING WORKS



AN AFRICAN VOLUNTEER BLOOD DONOR IS TESTED FOR HIS
BLOOD GROUP

the Livingstonia Coalfields. Drilling by Messrs. Powell Duffryn Technical Services has started and the results of the first diamond drill hole are encouraging. Numerous initial difficulties and stoppages have been overcome. The Lake Malombe cement clays have been resampled and analysed by a firm of contractors, and their full report is expected shortly.

Nyasaland has an agricultural economy and her future development depends on the extent to which agricultural productivity can be increased. The economy needs capital resources in skill, agricultural machinery and communications, factors which are being gradually overcome, as may be seen from reference to relevant sections of this report. During 1949 figures of imports of agricultural machinery show a marked increase of £24,000 on those of 1948, an encouraging trend in general production policy.

Chapter 7: Social Services

EDUCATION

Education is not at present compulsory for children of any race in Nyasaland.

There are some 4,300 primary schools for Africans, ranging from "village" schools giving vernacular instruction only, of which there are over 4,000, to the fourteen senior primary schools which provide the three-year senior course from Standard IV to Standard VI. The teaching of English begins in Standard I at junior schools which take the pupil up to Standard III.

Primary education is still predominantly in the hands of the missionary societies who began it in the first days of their work in Nyasaland, but there are also a few private schools, such as those on certain estates, and there are others managed by Native Authorities, who are taking an increasing interest in the establishment of non-sectarian schools. All are registered by the Education Department and subject to its inspection. Practically all the senior primary and junior schools and about a tenth of the village schools receive Government grants, and schools so assisted contain over 40 per cent of the school population.

There are at present two African secondary schools, financed by Government, with a total enrolment of 140. Most of the pupils leave after sitting the Junior Secondary Certificate Examination (a local Government examination of approximately the same standard as the Cambridge Junior School Certificate). Both schools are, however, prepared to retain their most promising pupils and give them instruction up to the Cambridge Senior School Certificate. Two candidates were presented in 1948 for this examination by the Zomba Secondary School (which is mainly for Roman Catholics) and both gained second grade certificates, qualifying them for matriculation exemption. The Blantyre Secondary School (which is mainly for Protestants) is co-educational, although so far it has only enrolled seven girls; the success of the first two in the Junior Certificate Examination should prove of great encouragement to others. Each of the secondary schools is controlled by a

Board of Governors comprising representatives of the Missions concerned together with a number of Government nominees. A Government Secondary School is now being built in the Central Province; in addition to purely academic education it will offer courses in commercial and technical subjects. It should be noted that there is always a number of Nyasaland scholars undergoing secondary instruction at institutions in other territories, to which they make their way either under the auspices of the Missions to which they adhere or by their own efforts. Correspondence courses are also fairly popular.

Teacher training is undertaken both by the Missions and by Government and leads to certificate examinations conducted by the Education Department. These are the Higher Grade, English Grade and Vernacular Grade Certificates, based on the requirements of the Senior, Junior and Sub-Standard Courses respectively. There are 325 men and 146 women in training at the seven Mission institutions, and at the Jeanes Training Centre there are 56 men of whom 29 are taking the Higher Grade Course and 27 the English Grade Course.

The Jeanes Training Centre is the only permanent establishment for African education under the direct control of the Education Department. During the year the Centre completed the second Village Headmen's Course to be held there. These courses together with the annual four months' course for chiefs, sub-chiefs and councillors, are to be discontinued for a time in order to allow the staff of the Centre to concentrate its effort on teacher training, the primary school, and experiments with adult education through visual aids. A subsidiary course is, however, being run for the wives of some of the serving teachers being trained at the Centre and the wives of seven African scholarship holders in the United Kingdom; they receive instruction in spoken and written English, domestic and health matters and in child-welfare. The training given at this Centre has a strong agricultural bias.

The 1945 Census showed that 5.59 per cent of the African population was literate in the vernacular, and 0.96 per cent in English. These figures are thought to be conservative, since recruits to the Army in the later years of the war were found to be about 20 per cent literate, and the Census figures take no account of absentees. It is also possible that they referred only to adults, as some 224,000 pupils, about 10 per cent of the total population, are enrolled in primary schools. It is estimated that about half of the country's children attend schools for at least a short period between the ages of five and eighteen; the great majority however never pass beyond the lowest classes. The number who passed the Standard VI examination at the end of their primary course was 309 in 1949, of whom 22 were girls, compared with 200 (including 11 girls) in 1948. This is the best result so far, and represents a considerable advance upon the position in 1941, the year in which this examination was instituted, when there were 37 successful candidates, but in proportion to the school population the number is still insignificant. There were 29 passes (including one girl) in the 1949 Junior Secondary examination.

In the academic year 1948-49 age-limits, governing admissions to Sub-Standard A and Standard IV of the primary course, were introduced for

the first time; no boy was allowed to enter Sub-Standard A of an assisted school if he were over the age of nine, nor to enter Standard IV if he were more than 15 years old. This year the limits have been lowered to eight and 14 years respectively, and kindergartens of five- and six-year olds have been started to provide a pleasant introduction to school life and to instil habits of attention and regular attendance. Critics of this measure foresaw a drift from the assisted to the unassisted schools, whereas in fact the enrolment has shown a greater increase in the assisted than in the unassisted schools. As the over-age pupils are replaced, wastage through marriage and departure to seek employment will be reduced, and instead of the 1945 Standard VI pass-list of 113, averaging 20 years old, upwards of 1,000 boys and girls should be completing their primary course in 1955 by the age of 15; a corresponding increase is anticipated in the number of pupils passing through the secondary schools, and instead of one or two a year proceeding to higher studies there should be at least a score.

In the meantime the educational needs of adults and of those who are too old for admission to primary schools are not forgotten. Mass literacy drives have been organised, particularly by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission, and follow-up literature is being supplied by the Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland Joint Publications Bureau which has recently opened a centre in Blantyre and has arranged for the supply and distribution of vernacular literature throughout the Protectorate. The Public Relations Office is also assisting by issuing a weekly newspaper, called *Msimbi*, with articles in English as well as in the main vernaculars. It is proving exceedingly popular and has already a circulation of 6,500, with a waiting list of 3,500 to be served as soon as the shortage of paper has been overcome. It is safe to assume that on the average each copy of this paper has ten readers. The lessons learnt from the abortive mass education pilot project at Mponela are being applied in a concentrated community development scheme run by an experienced Administrative Officer with a small team of specialists. If satisfactory results are achieved in this limited area efforts on similar lines will be made elsewhere to raise the people's standard of life both physical and cultural. A mistress from the Jeanes Training Centre has been seconded for social work amongst women, and is getting a good response in the more backward areas of the Central and Southern Provinces. Finally, a fine example of African initiative is supplied by a number of ex-teachers, mostly in Government service, who have established an evening school in Zomba for adults and over-age children anxious to improve their education. This school, now in its third year, receives a small grant-in-aid of £60 per annum. It has an enrolment of over 120 students who pay modest fees and attend regularly. It is doing very good work, and has already inspired public spirited Africans in Blantyre, Limbe and Cholo to start similar ventures.

The Five-Year Educational Plan 1950-54 provides a blueprint for the intensive development of all these lines of advance. The first Five-Year Plan (1945-49) aimed at laying the foundations of a ten-year expansion programme. During this period approximately half of the recurrent expenditure has been met by the Colonial Development and Welfare

Fund, whereas the whole cost of the second five years will be borne locally. A striking measure of agreement on policy has been secured, due primarily to the carrying out of a Protectorate-wide Survey of Schools. The object of the Survey, now in full swing, is to get as complete a picture as possible of the educational facilities that are being provided with a view to the detailed planning of their improvement and extension. To this end teams consisting of an Education Officer, the Mission Manager of Schools, the Native Authority and one or more of his counsellors, and an experienced African teacher, are visiting every assisted school and many of those at present unassisted. In addition to the information gleaned from an ordinary inspection they investigate in detail the ages of pupils, the numbers refused admission and the grounds for refusal, the numbers who have left without completing the session and the reason why they left, and the numbers enrolled at the beginning of the session as well as last dates of admission. On these data are based their recommendations for the development of educational facilities in each locality. The reports on all the schools in the administrative district are then considered by the District School Committee, and a district plan is drawn up with recommendations listed in order of priority. Finally, the district plans will be deliberated at a meeting of the Advisory Committee on African Education and fitted into the framework of the Five-Year Educational Plan 1950-54. A number of the District Surveys have already been completed and it is hoped that the remaining districts will be ready to present their reports by June, 1950. The stimulating effect of the Survey has been remarkable; the interest of the Native Authorities has been thoroughly aroused, and village headmen, parents and pupils have begun to realise that education is far more important than they had thought and that their active co-operation is required.

European parents are encouraged to send their children over the age of 10 to schools outside the Protectorate, partly for reasons of health, but also on account of the comparatively small number of children concerned. A grant of £30 per annum is available to parents in respect of each child between 10 and 18 who is attending school in South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Kenya or Tanganyika. Of the five primary schools for European children in the Protectorate, three are conducted by the Education Department and the other two by Missions with financial assistance from public funds. In addition to these facilities, correspondence courses are provided free of charge, through the generosity of the Southern Rhodesian Government, for children living in Nyasaland who are unable to attend school. In 1949, 244 European children were enrolled in schools in the Protectorate, 28 took the correspondence course and 201 were at schools elsewhere in Africa, compared with 186, 33 and 172 in the respective categories in 1948. The total cost of European education to public funds was £10,610.

The scale of immigration into Southern Rhodesia during the last three years has made it impossible for school accommodation in that territory to keep pace with the demand. This situation is being brought rapidly under control, but for at least three years Nyasaland parents will find it less easy than in the past to gain admission for their children into

Southern Rhodesian Government schools. The number of European children in Nyasaland has also risen. To meet the immediate problem primary school facilities within the Protectorate have been increased to cope with the additional intake, and the class-range is being extended to cover the first two years of secondary education.

Asian schools are likewise assisted by Government grants. In 1949 six schools, with an enrolment of 533, received £2,303, as compared with four schools with an enrolment of 423 in receipt of £1,640 in 1948; these schools take children up to Standard VI. In addition, four Government bursaries were awarded in 1949 to enable Asian pupils from Nyasaland to attend the Tanganyika Government's Indian Secondary School at Dar-es-Salaam.

The system on which grants-in-aid are paid to the Asian schools has been changed with effect from 1st October, 1949. Previously they received a capitation grant of £5 per pupil in average attendance; under the new conditions every efficient school receives two-thirds of its approved salary bill in respect of all adequately qualified members of staff. Throughout the year determined efforts have been made, with considerable success, to recruit suitable teachers from India, Pakistan and East Africa, and there is no doubt that the new system will raise efficiency out of all proportion to the extra expenditure involved.

The Government Eurafrican School near Blantyre, which was opened in October, 1946, with 16 pupils, now has 50, ranging from sub-standard A to Standard IV, under an Indian headmistress and a Eurafrican assistant mistress. Bursaries are available for all children in this group who attend schools in Rhodesia and South Africa. Expenditure on these services during 1949 amounted to £1,633.

The Government also provides university scholarships to the annual value of £100 to £200. Fifteen of these were held in 1949, ten by Europeans and five by Africans. The holders are pursuing their studies in the United Kingdom, South Africa and Uganda. Bursaries for juvenile education are available in cases of need, especially where the facilities desired cannot be obtained within the Protectorate. Eight scholarships to Africans and two to Europeans have been awarded by the Secretary of State under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act. One of the Europeans is studying medicine in Cape Town and the other veterinary science in Dublin. Seven of the Africans are pursuing an 18 months' course at the Colonial Department of the Institute of Education of London University in order to qualify as Assistant Inspectors of Schools.

The Governor is advised on education policy by four separate Committees for African, European, Asian and Eurafrican education. Each Committee contains representatives of the section of the community concerned.

Each Administrative District has a School Committee which advises the Director of Education on local matters. Policy is implemented under the supervision of the Education Department, which also inspects all schools, controls and maintains Government schools, conducts Government and public examinations, and controls and pays all local educational grants. The staff of the Department consists of 26 Europeans, 28 Africans,

one Indian and one Eurafrican. The total expenditure in 1949 amounted to £157,417, of which £77,390 was provided from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant.

HEALTH

As in other aspects of the life of the Protectorate, statistics concerning its health, morbidity and mortality are still scarce, unreliable and incomplete. A start has been made to record vital statistics through the Native Administrations but the results have so far been disappointing. The majority of diseases which bring Africans to hospitals and dispensaries are preventable. Tropical ulcers, malaria, hookworm and schistosomiasis are the commonest ailments encountered and their treatment causes a heavy demand on hospital beds, not because of the disability resulting but because effective treatment can only be ensured when the patients are under control in hospitals. Once cured of parasitic disease, however, patients are soon re-infested and until higher standards of environmental hygiene can be attained by education and practical example these diseases must continue to be a brake on the economic and social development of the Territory.

Of the major epidemic diseases, smallpox continued to occur in the Blantyre and Lilongwe Districts of the Southern and Central Provinces respectively. The vaccination campaign, started in 1948, was pushed vigorously and the overall incidence of smallpox was reduced from the 1948 figure of 4,830 to 1,264 in 1949. There were 239 deaths as compared with 606 deaths during 1948. The main causes of the continuing incidence have been concealment of cases of the disease, delayed notification by Native Authorities and the food shortage resulting from the severe drought experienced early in the year. The food shortage gave rise to a considerable movement of individuals from place to place and district to district in search of food in areas where there had been local surpluses. This undoubtedly had a bearing on the epidemiology of the outbreaks. In the Lilongwe District one outbreak occurred amongst Africans who were hoeing gardens in exchange for surplus food available in the locality affected by the outbreak.

There was a sharp rise in the incidence of relapsing fever in Mzimba in the Northern Province. A heavy infestation of the vector *O. moubata* occurred in the township area. As supplies of gammexane came to hand control measures were commenced and by the end of the year the incidence of relapsing fever was diminishing.

The venereal diseases treatment campaign continued with funds available under a Colonial Development and Welfare grant. Fewer attendances were recorded during 1948; the estimated totals for 1949, which are subject to revision when the final figures are received, indicate that this fall has been arrested and that the 1949 figures will exceed those of 1947. The patients under treatment still default early and the majority fail to return as soon as the clinical signs of the disease have disappeared. Penicillin has been made available to those Mission Maternity and Child Welfare Centres which are supervised by a doctor, for treatment of syphilis during pregnancy and of congenital syphilis in young children.

There are nineteen Government Hospitals for Africans, with a total of 1,117 beds; there are also 95 rural dispensaries, many of which have rest houses attached to them where patients coming from a distance may live while undergoing treatment. Of the hospitals maintained by Government, six are in charge of Medical Officers, eight are under Asian Sub-Assistant Surgeons, and five are sub-hospitals under African Hospital Assistants. The various Missions, which pioneered much of the medical work in Nyasaland, maintain a number of hospitals, dispensaries, leper colonies and ante-natal and child welfare clinics. Nine missionary doctors were at work during 1949 and there was also a number of Nursing Sisters engaged in the service, many of them in sole charge of small hospitals. Maternity and child welfare work is mainly in the hands of the Missions, which receive assistance from public funds for this purpose; of the 6,745 confinements at maternity centres reported for 1948 (the latest returns available) 5,478 took place in mission clinics; the corresponding figures for 1947 were 5,739 and 4,655 which indicate that confinement under hygienic conditions is slowly becoming more popular. Growing attendances at ante-natal clinics are another encouraging sign of progress in this respect.

Work continued throughout the year on the building of four Health Units in Native Authority areas. The work is being carried out departmentally by the Public Works Department and, when completed, the cost will be met partly from a Colonial Development and Welfare grant and partly from funds provided under the Native Development and Welfare Ordinance. The Health Units when in full operation will be staffed by locally trained Africans, a Hospital Assistant being in charge, assisted by a medical aide, a sanitary assistant and a midwife.

The majority of the Europeans live in the Shire Highlands and the Plateau areas of the Central Province, although they are now beginning to reside in greater numbers in the Northern Province, mainly as a result of Colonial Development Corporation activities. Malaria is common throughout the Territory, particularly during the rains, but prophylaxis with modern chemo-therapeutic preparations renders complications infrequent. Of the 733 admissions during 1949 to the three Government Hospitals for Europeans (Zomba, Blantyre and Lilongwe), 136 were accounted for by malaria; the figures for 1948 were 634 and 114 respectively. There were 88 confinements in Government European Hospitals during the year compared with 77 in 1948. Deaths numbered 11 as against seven in 1948. In addition to Government hospitals, the Seventh Day Adventist Mission maintains a small European Hospital at its headquarters in the Cholo District.

Asiatics are more widely scattered through the Territory than Europeans. For the most part they live under conditions not conducive to robust health, especially in rural areas, where the poorer members of this group are engaged in trading at small stores of semi-permanent structure. Asiatic patients are admitted to special wards at Zomba, Blantyre and Lilongwe Government Hospitals and there is also an Asiatic ward at the Seventh Day Adventist Mission at Cholo.

The Government medical establishment consists of the Director of Medical Services, his Deputy, three Senior Medical Officers, a Surgical

Specialist, a Pathologist, 18 Medical Officers, a Dental Officer and a Pharmacist-Storekeeper. The post of Pathologist was vacant for the greater part of the year and of the 18 Medical Officer posts only 14 were filled; leave requirements meant that not more than 12 Medical Officers were on duty at any one time. The nursing staff comprises a matron and 19 nursing sisters. All the foregoing are Europeans. There are two Asian Senior Sub-Assistant Surgeons and nine Sub-Assistant Surgeons. The sanitary staff consists of a Senior Health Inspector and four Health Inspectors. The Health Inspectors are attached to the townships of Zomba, Limbe and Lilongwe and almost wholly employed in supervising the routine sanitary measures of these towns on behalf of local authorities.

The African Hospital at Zomba which has 200 beds is also the centre for the training of African male and female subordinate staff for the medical and health services; the various systems of training were described in some detail in the 1947 report. Work proceeded normally during 1949 and there was an output of five Hospital Assistants, 10 medical aides and three sanitary assistants. Twenty-two women qualified for registration on the Roll of Midwives including 16 who had been trained by missionary societies; the names on the Roll at the end of the year totalled 126.

Owing to the serious drought experienced in the 1948-49 planting season, it soon became apparent that a major food shortage would result. To ease the situation a large scale re-planting drive was enforced in 1949, but again, owing to the lack of rains this was only partially successful. The first area to feel the effect was Port Herald District and by June, 1949, the population was living on water lily roots and grass seed. A food distribution centre was opened during this period and maize made available for purchase by the African population. The situation slowly improved and as the Africans were growing their own foodstuffs alongside the river banks and in adjoining low-lying gardens, it was later possible to close down the centre.

The main preoccupation of the Department during the year has been the planning and supervision of the medical aspects of famine relief. A close watch was maintained on the physical condition of the population in the areas affected. Routine weighing of samples of the community was carried out over a period of months and the staff conducting these weighings were constantly on the look-out for any increase in the signs of malnutrition normally seen in an average African population. Later in the year a Medical Officer was placed on full-time duty in connection with the establishment of food distribution centres. An epidemic disease control unit was formed and equipment assembled so that any major outbreak of epidemic disease could be attacked expeditiously.

Large stocks of essential dietary supplements were accumulated early in the year and supplies distributed to the district hospitals in the areas affected. These supplements consisted of dehydrated vegetables, food yeast, red palm oil and vitamin concentrates. In addition, the British Red Cross Society and the Nyasaland Branch of the British Red Cross jointly provided five tons of dried milk, primarily intended for the feeding of babies and young children.

By the end of the year the physical condition of the young and middle age adult groups was good and there was no evidence of general physical deterioration. Old persons and children of the 3-10 year age group were, however, beginning to show signs of lack of food. Those affected were mainly confined to families where the breadwinner was employed away from his home district or the wife had been deserted.

Before the onset of the rains the water table had dropped sharply in certain districts and the water shortage became acute. Perennial streams dried up; what were permanent pools in average years disappeared and wells went out of commission. In the Blantyre-Limbe Townships the water shortage became particularly acute and strict rationing had to be imposed.

HOUSING

Coincident with the increasing tempo of commercial development is the desire of the African for better housing. Those who have worked in South Africa return with every intention of improving their living accommodation, and those who remain in the country see around them examples of housing which it is their ambition to copy. It will, however, be some time before the general standard of African housing improves; yet each successive year sees an increase in the number of houses with windows, a separate kitchen and a pit latrine. The enlightened African feels that his social status demands the provision for himself of a house possessing such advantages. Even so, the bulk of the African population live in their traditional wattle-and-daub huts of round or oblong design. It has been noticed in some instances, however, that the owner, for want of the necessary money, but nevertheless with a true desire to improve his status, has actually painted windows on the outside walls of his hut. The ambition is there and the determination to build a better type of house will in many cases be realised when the craftsmen and materials are available.

The European housing situation remains difficult. To overcome the housing shortage caused by the influx of Government servants during the past twelve months work has been concentrated on the construction of bungalows with thatched roofs. They are built from readily obtainable local materials and their erection is quicker than that of houses built entirely of permanent materials. The thatched roof makes for coolness in the hot season and in the higher altitudes retains the heat during the cold dry season.

SOCIAL WELFARE

There is no Department of Social Welfare in Nyasaland, and comparatively little organised activity. The need for some form of co-ordinated action has long been recognised by Government, and at the end of 1949, proposals were under consideration for the formation of a Social Welfare Advisory Committee, whose work in the initial stages will be directed to the welfare problems of the industrial south. During the year an assistant mistress from the Educational Department was seconded to the post of full-time Welfare Officer, and for the first time

in Nyasaland one of the tea and tobacco estates at Nchima employed a permanent welfare officer. Apart from these professional welfare workers, a number of European employers and certain European voluntary organisations, such as the Red Cross Society and the National Council of Women, undertake social welfare activities as part of their normal duties. In the undeveloped rural areas, which still form a large percentage of the country's total land surface, organised welfare activity is widely undertaken by the Missions. In addition to being vigorous social welfare institutions in themselves they also exert a marked influence in making the African aware of his social responsibilities.

The main problem facing all those concerned with social welfare is that of teaching the African to organise his welfare activities on a community basis, a thought quite alien to his traditional custom in which the family unit has always accepted responsibility for social disablement. As the momentum of economic progress increases, evidence is forthcoming that the individual looks to the community to provide these social amenities. It is generally appreciated, however, that community responsibilities cannot be introduced until it is certain that the peasant family realises what welfare means. As mentioned in previous reports, selected families are given a course of instruction at the Jeanes Centre. On returning to their villages they endeavour to introduce to their fellow villagers the high standards of discipline and social functions taught at the Centre. Considerable interest is being taken in the development of village classes for housecraft and sewing, which when established provide a useful medium for social welfare propaganda. Urban recreation and welfare halls have been built by Government in a number of centres in the country. These are run by committees of African residents under the general supervision of the District Commissioner. Classes on a variety of subjects are organised for both men and women; dances and cinema shows being held at regular intervals. These are necessarily long-term policies, but as the growing urban population becomes conscious of its social obligations increasing attention must inevitably be given to an organised treatment of the problems entailed.

Progress is steadily being achieved on the judicial side of social welfare. The work carried out at the Pyupyu Prison Farm and the Government approved school for juvenile delinquents is described in Part II, Chapter 9; the first discharges from the school took place during the year and it will be of interest to see whether those discharged derive any benefits from the training provided at the school. Both these developments show the general trend of modern reformatory methods in penology.

Special interest was focused in March, 1949, on a community development scheme initiated in an area situated immediately north of Zomba. The broad intention is to set up an administrative team representing all the development departments whose function is to tackle every aspect of community development as far as possible on the initiative of the inhabitants and in co-operation with existing agencies. It is hoped that when the team is finally withdrawn the community will be in a position to manage its own affairs, and to progress with no more supervision than it would normally receive. By the end of 1949 a start had been made in

inducing the inhabitants of the area to concentrate their dwellings into model villages which will simplify the provision of social services. Educational and livestock surveys have already been completed, and a detailed sociological and land usage investigation made of a sample village.

During the last few months of 1949 the problem of social welfare was overshadowed by the consequences of the very severe drought. Famine relief centres were established in many areas, particularly in the Southern Province and the energies of those who normally give much of their time to the provision of social amenities were devoted to the handling and distribution of food and seed. A number of reception centres caring for those suffering from the effects of malnutrition were opened and many non-officials gave invaluable voluntary assistance in staffing such centres.

With a view to maintaining the purchasing power of the African population relief works were inaugurated in all distressed areas. These relief works were primarily designed to assist Africans to purchase food-stuffs made available by Government, and were conducted on a paid labour or communal system, whichever was considered more appropriate to the area concerned. The communal system in some cases was most successful as it afforded the community concerned an opportunity of meeting its responsibilities towards the aged, infirm and others unable to work.

Scouting activities have continued during the year and at the moment there are 16 Scout Groups and 450 Scouts in the country. There are African, Indian and Eurafrican Scouts and European Cubs. No major meeting can be recorded for 1949 but several smaller events took place. On Likoma Island successful camps and hikes have been held. The Scouts help in the life of the island by voluntarily assisting in the unloading of the steamer and have been taught to recognise the snail which harbours the developing bilharzia worm. They have taken part in snail surveys of the island and in a campaign against the snails. The Medical Officer at Likoma has written to express his appreciation of their help.

There is an active troop at the Reformatory School for Boys, Zomba, and during the year they have taken part freely in local activities. They joined the Zomba Secondary School Troop to celebrate St. George's Day and were one of the six troops that participated in the successful Camp Fire Sing-Song held at Likwenu.

During the year a small magazine has appeared, called *Nyasaland Scout News*. During the year there were six editions with a circulation of 150 copies. The boys themselves write many of the articles and help in the printing. It claims to be the only periodical in Nyasaland in which news is printed in Nyanja, English and Gujarati.

The Government has made financial provision for the employment of a full-time Organising Commissioner for Boy Scouts in Nyasaland and his arrival is eagerly awaited early in 1950.

In December, 1949, a contribution was made by the people of Nyasaland, with assistance from the Government, towards the establishment in South Africa of a modern hospital and research unit to investigate the problem of blindness in Southern Africa. The Director of Medical

Services, Nyasaland, has been nominated and accepted as the Government's representative on the National Committee empowered to deal with the establishment and maintenance of the Foundation.

Apart from the activities of the various Departments concerned, Government makes annual grants to youth organisations and to the King's African Rifles Memorial Home, and also provides annually for the relief of necessitous cases. The British Empire Service League watches over the interests of ex-servicemen of all races and is in a position to help them financially in cases of need.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Thirty-three Ordinances were enacted in 1949. These include a new Customs Ordinance which consolidates the law relating to customs in a comprehensive and modern form. An Ordinance to provide for the adoption of children fills a gap which formerly existed in the Protectorate's legislation. A Fisheries Ordinance makes provision for the registration of nets and the licensing of commercial fishing undertakings, and gives Government the power to proclaim close seasons during which fishing shall be prohibited.

An important amending Ordinance was the Criminal Procedure Code (Amendment) Ordinance, which abolished trial by jury as a privilege attaching exclusively to accused persons of European origin, and which removed any discrimination in the procedure at trials of persons of different races. In all future cases the trial judge will be assisted by three assessors of the same race as the accused. An Immigration (Control) Ordinance similar to that in force in other East African territories was also enacted and has been brought into operation.

An important piece of labour legislation was the Wages and Conditions of Employment Ordinance, which sets up Advisory Boards to advise the Governor in Council on the rates of wages and conditions of employment in any occupation. The Governor in Council may prescribe by order rates of wages and conditions of employment for any occupation or undertaking either generally or in particular areas, and employers disregarding the terms of such orders are made liable to punishment.

The Natural Resources Ordinance, 1946, which had proved unsatisfactory in many ways, was repealed and replaced by a more suitable Ordinance. The Cotton Ordinance makes provision for the control of the thriving local cotton-growing industry and repeals the obsolete Cotton Ordinance of 1934.

Over two hundred Government Notices containing subsidiary legislation were drafted and published by the Legal Department during the year.

Chapter 9: Justice, Police and Prisons

JUSTICE

The Courts of the Protectorate consist of the High Court, with jurisdiction over all persons and over all matters in the Protectorate, and Courts

subordinate thereto. There are also Native Courts, which are supervised by the Provincial Commissioners and District Commissioners.

Subordinate courts are nominally of the first, second and third class with powers of trial over natives and non-natives.

Courts of the first class are held by Provincial Commissioners, and at Blantyre, Limbe and Lilongwe by Magistrates who are barristers-at-law. The second and third class courts are presided over by the District and Assistant District Commissioners of each district.

The Criminal Procedure Code confers on subordinate courts a limited jurisdiction, the sentences which may be imposed by a court of the third class being limited to six months. The graver crimes are tried by the High Court after a preliminary inquiry before the subordinate court.

Subordinate courts of the first and second class may try offenders for any offence under the Penal Code or any other law, other than treason, misprision of treason, murder, and manslaughter; but any sentence of more than 12 months' imprisonment with hard labour by a first class court and six months' imprisonment with hard labour by a second class court is subject to confirmation by the High Court.

In civil matters, courts of the first, second and third class have jurisdiction over Europeans and Asiatics in all matters in which the amount or value in dispute does not exceed £100, £50, or £25 respectively. Courts of the first and second class may, subject to the provisions of Article 20 of the British Central Africa Order in Council, 1902, try any native civil case and courts of the third class may, subject as above and subject to the provisions of Section 13 of the Courts Ordinance (Revised Laws, Cap 27) try any such case. Section 13 reserves certain cases "relating to land and disputes between native chiefs of such importance as not to fall under the head of mere district discipline" to courts of the first or second class or the High Court, unless the Governor shall otherwise direct.

So far, appeals from Native Courts have lain ultimately to the High Court. When the Native Courts Ordinance, 1947, is brought into force, however, appellate jurisdiction will be withdrawn from the High Court though questions of law may be referred to it by the Native Courts Adviser under Section 26 of the Ordinance.

The High Court may call for the records of all courts subordinate to itself, to satisfy itself as to the legality and propriety of the proceedings and sentence.

Appeals from subordinate courts in civil and criminal matters lie to the High Court. Appeals from the High Court in civil and criminal matters lie to the Rhodesia and Nyasaland Court of Appeal which holds sessions approximately every other month at Salisbury, Livingstone or Blantyre.

The Chief Justice arranges regular circuits three or four times a year and so far as is possible fixes the venue in or near the district in which the alleged crime has been committed. He also inspects the court books and files of subordinate courts. He is *ex officio* Visiting Justice of the Central and District Prisons of the Protectorate.

During the last few years a beginning has been made in the introduction of modern methods of penology. The work of the approved school,

and the progress made in the segregation and classification of offenders committed to prison are described later in this chapter. Eighty-one juveniles came before the courts in 1949, compared with 88 in 1948, the offence generally being petty theft: six were committed to the approved school, as compared with seven in 1948.

POLICE

The establishment of the Nyasaland Police has further expanded during 1949 and the Force now includes 37 Europeans, 697 Africans and one Asian sub-inspector. The policy of creating a completely literate Force is being pursued; the total number of approved literate African members being 450 as compared with 213 in 1948. Considerable emphasis is placed on the required educational standard being maintained. The number of assistant sub-inspectors and station sergeants for 1949 is 50 as against 44 for 1948. During the year authority was granted to recruit a European Assistant Superintendent of Police as wireless officer; his duties will be to erect and maintain the Police wireless equipment which is on order.

The new Immigration Control Ordinance was promulgated in the latter part of the year; a police officer was placed in charge of the Immigration Branch.

All police officers who have visited the United Kingdom on leave have taken various courses in police and criminal investigation duties. Two newly appointed assistant inspectors replaced two clerical members of the Government service who were employed as pay and quartermaster and as clerk to the Commissioner of Police. An Asian bandmaster is in charge of the band which has maintained its efficiency throughout the year.

The Criminal Investigation Department consists of two European officers and 36 Africans. The total number of offences dealt with by the Police in 1949 was 10,521 compared with 8,641 in 1948 and 6,996 in 1947. Sixty-seven reports of murder were dealt with as compared with 49 in 1948 and 79 in 1947. Eighteen of these were committed at beer drinks or shortly after the accused had attended a beer drink. One thousand one hundred and sixty reports of burglary, housebreaking and other breakings were dealt with as compared with 877 in 1948 and 730 in 1947. Three thousand five hundred and seventy-one cases of theft were reported as compared with 2,065 in 1948 and 1,556 in 1947. Cases of housebreaking, other breakings and theft together comprised 74 per cent of the total criminal cases reported. There were 209 cases of arson as compared with 179 in 1948 and 117 in 1947.

Owing to the famine in 1949, cases of praedial larceny showed a sharp rise. The Police have been successful in detecting a large number of the reported cases. The increase in the number of cases reported can be accounted for by the fact that European police officers were stationed in three districts where no European police officer had been stationed in previous years. Of the 1,160 reports of burglaries, housebreaking and other breakings, a large number were committed by recidivists who had been released or had escaped from prison. Supervision of known habitual

criminals is continuing and the system is becoming more efficient. Famine conditions were responsible for a decline in the amount of native beer drinking and illegal brewing.

PRISONS

The Central Prison, Zomba and the Pyupyu Prison Farm, near Zomba, are the only prisons in the Protectorate directly administered by Officers of the Prison Service; the remaining one second class and 10 third class prisons are under the control of administrative officers or police officers, but are staffed by prison warders.

The Central Prison takes all classes of prisoners from all parts of the Protectorate, and the second and third class prisons take only first offenders with up to two-year and six-month sentences respectively.

All prisons in the Protectorate are under the ultimate control of the Commissioner of Prisons, with headquarters in Zomba.

The authorised establishment for the Department at the end of 1949 was six European officers, eleven African clerks and artisan instructors, and 191 African discipline staff. There are also five teachers and instructors at the Chilwa School, making a total of 213. In addition temporary warders are engaged to meet staff requirements when necessary, and 52 of this rank were in the Service at the end of the year.

As mentioned in last year's report warder training courses continued to be held at the Prison Farm throughout 1949; refresher and promotion courses were introduced. A European officer was posted to the Prison Farm for the first time, and the warders' courses were conducted under his personal supervision. Nine literate and 30 illiterate recruits were attested during the year, literates being of Standard IV and over. Disciplinary offences by members of the African staff numbered 187 in 1949; an increase of 42 over the previous year. This rise is attributed mainly to the increase in junior inexperienced staff, to the abnormal conditions created by the serious drought and resultant scarcity of foodstuffs, and higher cost of these essential commodities. The temptation of seeing prisoners receiving food which they themselves were having difficulty to obtain proved too much for many, and they fell into the inevitable trap of trafficking with prisoners for food or money. This very human failing resulted in a serious deterioration in the standard of discipline at the Central Prison.

During 1949, 2,038 persons were committed to prison to serve sentences compared with 1,804 in the previous year. The number of female convicted prisoners was 55 against 40 for 1948. Remand persons, not subsequently sentenced to imprisonment, numbered 1,027 of whom 48 were females.

The number of recidivists admitted to the Central Prison was 172, a decrease of 111 on 1948. There was again an increase in the number of punishments for prison offences, being 428 against 321. The daily average also showed an increase of 74, being 951.42 for all prisons. Punishments were mainly loss of remission, penal diet, and close confinement, but there was one case of corporal punishment for an assault on the Acting Superintendent at the Central Prison by a recidivist prisoner. The

general health of prisoners remained good, the average daily sick list being 23·18 or 2·41 per cent of the total daily average.

The Department was faced with a grave problem early in the year as a result of the general food shortage and drought conditions. The prison ration scale as laid down in the Prison Rules, had to be substantially reduced as a temporary measure to meet the emergency.

On 3rd November a disturbance took place at the Central Prison as a result of which one police constable, one warder and two prisoners were killed. The situation was quickly got under control, and a Commission of Enquiry was immediately appointed to investigate the cause of the disturbance and to make recommendations as to the future maintenance of order and discipline in the Prison.

During the year 10,000 garments, quantities of cooking and eating utensils, mosquito nets, mattresses and furniture were produced in the Central Prison Workshops. Articles were manufactured or repaired for private individuals to the value of £265. A total of 450,000 bricks were made and burnt at the Central Prison and a further 300,000 at the Pyupyu Prison Farm.

A substantial building programme was undertaken by the Department but could not be fully completed owing to lack of essential materials.

The Pyupyu Prison Farm (for first offenders only) made excellent progress. Despite the serious drought 160,000 pounds of food crops were reaped to the value of £2,790. The cattle herd was increased, and a scheme for producing vaccine lymph from the calves was started in conjunction with the Medical Department. This scheme will be further developed during 1950, and it is hoped will result in a considerable saving to Government for the purchase of vaccine from outside sources. The accommodation for prisoners at the farm was increased to 225, and the area under crops was increased by a further 42 acres. The standard of work and conduct of the first offenders at the farm is very high.

The Chilwa School developed satisfactorily and the numbers increased to 23 boys. The Boy Scout Troop has made good progress and is most popular with the boys. They attended two Camp Fires at other centres and acquitted themselves most creditably in their behaviour and contributions to the concerts. A very satisfactory Camp Fire was held at the School to entertain the delegates to the East Africa Prison Commissioners Conference which was held in October. The first discharges from the school took place during the year, and it is hoped that the boys will make good use of the training they have received.

Chapter 10: Public Utilities and Public Works

PUBLIC UTILITIES

The only public utility services operated in Nyasaland are the electricity and water supplies of the townships of Zomba and Blantyre, the electricity supply of Limbe, and the water supply of Lilongwe.

The Zomba piped water supply is taken from the Mlungusi River halfway up Zomba Mountain, and is distributed by gravity feed to

all parts of the capital; the water is neither filtered nor otherwise treated, but has been shown by analysis to be clear and pure. Water is charged for at a monthly rate of 3s 6*d* per house. Electricity is supplied by a small hydro-electric plant consisting of two Pelton wheels and two 70-kilowatt alternators, augmented by one 50-kilowatt and one 24-kilowatt diesel set. Owing to increased running costs, the charges for electricity had to be increased at the beginning of 1949 from 6*d* to 8*d* per 100 square feet of lighted area. The price of 1½*d* per unit remains the same. The present output of electricity is much below requirements and a scheme has been prepared for a new hydro-electric plant. Work will commence on this project during 1950.

Blantyre draws its water from a dam on the Mudi River some four miles from the town. The water is passed through sedimentation tanks and pressure filters before being chlorinated and piped by gravity through a 6-inch main to the township. The storage capacity of the existing dams is, however, quite inadequate for present-day needs and a scheme has been prepared by a firm of consulting engineers to increase this storage capacity and provide a water supply for both the townships of Blantyre and Limbe. It is expected that a contract will be let early in 1950 for the construction of these works. The electrical power plant consists of four diesel-driven alternators with a total output of 500 kilowatts. Both services are owned and operated by the Municipality; the charge for water is 2s 6*d* a thousand gallons up to an amount which depends upon the rateable value of the property and 1s a thousand gallons thereafter. Electricity charges differ according to different uses; for ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge equal to three units per living room at 1s 8*d* a unit and thereafter 2*d* a unit for the next 50 units and 1*d* a unit for any excess.

Limbe does not have a piped water supply but a scheme is being prepared in conjunction with the improvements to the Blantyre supply. Electricity is bought in bulk from the Nyasaland Railways by the Municipality, which distributes it through the township. For ordinary households there is a minimum monthly charge of 5s, charges being levied on a basis of 1s per unit up to an amount equal to 1s per 100 square feet of the main buildings, and thereafter 3*d* a unit.

It has now been arranged that Government will take over the electricity supplies of both Blantyre and Limbe early in 1950 with the ultimate intention of building a new power station to supply both townships. A site has been fixed approximately midway between the townships and it is expected that a new thermal station, using coal, will be commissioned in 1952. The maximum output will be 5,000 kilowatts.

Lilongwe has no electricity supply, and the present water supply merely delivers river water to the houses, unfiltered and unchlorinated. Water is pumped from the river to a small service reservoir and thence fed by gravity throughout the township. Plans have been prepared for augmenting this supply and for introducing filtration and chlorination, but the necessary plant and equipment has not yet arrived. Schemes are being prepared by the Government Electrical Engineer for providing electricity at Lilongwe and other stations.

PUBLIC WORKS

Although the supervisory staff of the Public Works Department is still insufficient to cope with the ever increasing programme of work, the position did improve during the year when a number of Works Supervisors and three Assistant Engineers arrived in the Protectorate from the United Kingdom.

Road improvements were again restricted to earthworks and drainage as the large building programmes received priority in cement allocations. Constructional work proceeded slowly on parts of the Fort Hill-Karonga Road, but a considerable amount of survey work is still required on many sections; the lack of engineering staff has prevented this from being carried out.

In order to speed up construction and so cope with the great demand for European staff houses, a building programme for over a hundred temporary type houses was commenced early in 1949. Most of these had been completed by the end of the year. They are built of sun dried brick with thatched roofs.

In addition to the above, six Grade Four permanent houses were completed as well as other buildings for various purposes.

Progress on the contract for thirty Grade Two and Grade Three houses for European officers which was let in September, 1948, has been disappointing, and, by the end of 1949, only two houses had been completed with four others under construction. Plans are under consideration to alter the contract with a view to reducing costs and improving the rate of progress.

Another contract was let in March for the reconstruction of Chileka Aerodrome, involving a large amount of earthworks and the laying of tarmac runways.

Chapter 11: Communications

SHIPPING

The position at South and East African ports including Beira improved considerably during 1949 and the Conference Lines resumed normal calls at Beira. Internal water transport on Lake Nyasa remains mainly in the hands of the Nyasaland Railways, who with their fleet of five tugs, a number of barges and the m.v. *Mpasa*, of 200 tons, continued to provide a freight service during the year. The Railways have in hand the construction of a new motor passenger vessel to be named *Ilala II*. The Universities' Mission to Central Africa also operates one small steamer on the Lake, and there is a good deal of dhow traffic. A small trading company commenced operations with a small cargo vessel at the end of 1949.

RAILWAYS

Communication with the sea at Beira and with Southern Rhodesia and so to the Cape is effected by the 3 ft. 6 in. gauge line operated by the Nyasaland, Central Africa, and Trans-Zambesia Railways, via the Lower

Zambesi Bridge whose 12,064 ft. make it the longest railway bridge in the world. The railhead is at Salima, near Lake Nyasa, and at Chipoka, which is further south and on the Lake, trains connect with the Lake vessels. Except for 1944 there has been a steady increase year by year in both goods and passenger traffic; taking the section of the line served by Nyasaland Railways Ltd., annual goods traffic between 1939 and 1949 has nearly trebled, from 64,000 tons in 1939 to 180,000 tons in 1949 and the number of passengers from 107,000 to 315,000. The passenger figures include those carried by the Sentinel coaches which operate on the northern section of the line. This increase in traffic has led to heavy pressure on rolling-stock and orders have been placed for 11 additional main-line engines and other freight rolling-stock, delivery of which commenced towards the end of 1949.

Deliveries of additional passenger rolling stock have been delayed and no relief in respect of passenger accommodation was possible during the year.

The ferry service across the River Shire at Chiromo continued its successful operation throughout the year; over 130,000 tons was handled. At no time has the ferry proved to be the limiting factor on the lines of communication to and from the Protectorate.

The New Bridge at Chiromo, completed at the close of the year, was formally opened by the Governor in January, 1950.

AVIATION

The Central African Airways Corporation has continued to provide all internal and regional services since 1946. The 1948-49 programme was replaced on 1st April, 1949, by a more frequent service between Blantyre and Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia. This route was operated three times a week by Viking aircraft, and the subsidiary internal route by a Dove aircraft three days a week. During 1949 the services of the Bristol freighter aircraft were dispensed with, and freight traffic, mainly incoming, was confined to the Vikings.

In November, B.O.A.C. introduced a flying-boat service, using Solent aircraft, to Cape Maclear, at the southern end of Lake Nyasa. These aircraft call at Cape Maclear northbound from Johannesburg on Mondays, and southbound from the United Kingdom on Fridays.

Non-schedule services were provided during the year by a small charter company operating Rapide and Bonanza aircraft. This type of service proved to be most popular particularly to out stations where the use of landing grounds is restricted to light aircraft.

The Nyasaland Aero Club's activities ceased at the beginning of the year and only two private pilots' licences were renewed. No private aircraft were registered during 1949.

One forced landing was recorded, which was due to bad weather. The aircraft was damaged but no injury resulted to the occupant; formal enquiries were unnecessary.

Figures are only available for the main airport of the territory at Blantyre. During 1949 there were 864 aircraft arrivals and 865 departures at the aerodrome. The total number of passengers handled during the

year by Central African Airways amounted to 4,718; 2,353 incoming and 2,365 outgoing. Freight amounted to 92,043 kilos and mail to 38,116 kilos.

ROADS

Nyasaland is well served by roads and has good connections with neighbouring territories. The spinal column of its road system is the route from the Portuguese border on the Ruo River, near Mlanje, northwards through the Central and Northern Provinces, and on to join the Northern Rhodesian and Tanganyika systems at Tunduma. Most other roads of importance, with the exception of that from Blantyre via Portuguese territory to Salisbury in Southern Rhodesia, are in effect links between this route, the railway and the Lake.

The total mileage of main roads, excluding the townships, is 1,873, of which only four miles are full-width tarmac; 112 miles are metalled only and the remainder are natural earth roads. In addition there are 540 miles of principal district roads which are kept up by the Public Works Department and some 1,450 miles of district roads maintained by the District Administration or Native Authorities. These are mostly for use by light traffic in the dry season only. The cost of maintenance varies from £40 a mile for metalled main roads to approximately £2 a mile for minor district roads.

New road construction in 1949 was confined mainly to the Fort Hill-Karonga Road, where a pilot track has been completed. Most of the difficult sections require further survey work before a permanent road can be opened; a shortage of engineering staff is holding up progress in this respect. Improvements were carried out on the Mzimba-Vipya Road, the Njakwa-Livingstonia Road, the Great North Road, and many others.

New items of road construction plant arrived during the year and a much larger road grading programme will be undertaken during 1950 than has hitherto been possible.

Work commenced in April on a contract for the general improvements to, and bituminous surfacing of, the Limbe-Cholo-Mlanje road, the Limbe-Zomba road and the Blantyre-Chileka road; a total distance of 116 miles. Progress to date has been very slow. This has been mainly due to the initial difficulties of getting the necessary plant and heavy equipment from England to the working site, and to labour difficulties, largely brought about by the drought conditions prevailing and the consequent scarcity of food.

POSTS AND TELECOMMUNICATIONS

In 1949 the Post Office dealt with 8,800,000 postal articles—an increase of 17 per cent over 1948 figures. The cash-on-delivery parcel service was extended during the year to both Southern Rhodesia and South Africa and has proved equally popular with both the European and African population. A sixpenny air letter service to all countries in the world participating in the service was also established.

The number of telephone subscribers increased by 10 per cent over the previous year to a total of 747. Demand for telephone service, however, increased at a much higher rate, but owing to the delayed delivery of materials and shortage of staff, all requests for installations could not be met. The extensive cable-laying now in progress in Zomba, Limbe and Blantyre will enable service to be given to the majority of applicants in that area. In October a twice weekly mail service was put into operation in the Livingstonia and Nkata Bay-Chinteché areas. This service operated by Land Rovers supersedes the present weekly mail carrier service.

One new post office was built at the Colonial Development Corporation headquarters at Mzuzu, and three further new offices were under construction at the end of the year at Makwasa, Namitete and Mponela. A building for an automatic telephone exchange at Zomba has been completed.

Chapter 12: Research and Other Activities

In May, 1949, the Central African Council recommended to the Governments of the Rhodesias and Nyasaland that a standing Research Advisory Committee be established to co-ordinate and organise research work proposed and undertaken in the three territories. The terms of reference and personnel of the Standing Committee were agreed to by the three Governments at the end of the year. A start has been made and the Committee has already drawn up a comprehensive schedule of research projects being carried out or planned in the agricultural and veterinary departments of the three countries concerned. For some time to come, a shortage of laboratory facilities and specialist staff will inevitably limit the projects which can be undertaken by the territories individually.

During the year the Nyasaland Medical Department prepared research projects into the incidence of eye diseases, leprosy and yellow fever. These projects are designed to function on a regional basis in Central Africa and a meeting of the Directors of Medical Services of the three territories is to be held early in 1950 to study the possibilities of integrating the Nyasaland projects into a co-ordinated scheme.

The general position with regard to diseases of domestic stock has not deteriorated. Three-day sickness of cattle was confirmed for the first time in the Protectorate. A disease survey of the Protectorate is being made with a view to obtaining exact information on the incidence of animal diseases in the country. Experimental work was continued with the use of trypanocidal drugs in combating trypanosomiasis.

In the Central and Northern Provinces studies are directed to the improvement of both milk and beef yields of the native breeds of cattle by selective breeding and improved animal husbandry. A programme of self-fertilising local strains of maize, begun last year and extended this year, aims at producing strains of hybrid maize suited to local needs and conditions. Preliminary collections of different grasses both exotic and

indigenous are being made to test their suitability in different environments.

A Protectorate-wide tsetse-fly survey, estimated to take some three years to complete, is planned to start during 1950. This will give more precise information of the distribution of the fly and the exact limits of the known belts. Game control activities continued to be directed to the destruction of crop marauding animals. In the course of these operations some 15,000 animals were destroyed of which 14,000 were baboon or wild pig. Considerable success has been achieved in the destruction of crocodiles infesting parts of the lake.

Previous Reports have mentioned the establishment of the Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland Joint Publications Bureau, whose function is to encourage the production and publication of literature in the vernacular, by Africans for Africans. The African Book Centre was set up in Blantyre in October, 1949, as the selling organisation of the Bureau and under the control of the Business Assistant of the Joint Publications Bureau. Six thousand seven hundred volumes were sold in the first four months of the operation of the Bureau; 4,000 copies of the best-seller *Banja Lathu* and 2,700 copies of other books. Enquiries from Nyasaland Africans for books come from as far south as Vasco in the Cape Province of South Africa. The African Book Centre is financed entirely by the Nyasaland Government, as distinct from the Joint Publications Bureau which is maintained by Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

PART III

Chapter 1: Geography and Climate

THE Protectorate of Nyasaland is some 520 miles in length and varies in width from 50 to 100 miles; it lies approximately between $9^{\circ} 45'$ and $17^{\circ} 16'$ south latitude and 33° and 36° east longitude. It is bounded on the east by Tanganyika and Portuguese East Africa, on the south by Portuguese East Africa, on the west by Portuguese East Africa and Northern Rhodesia, and on the north by Tanganyika. The land area of the Protectorate is about 37,000 square miles, or nearly three-quarters the area of England; the southern tip of the country is 130 miles from the sea.

The key to the physiography of the Protectorate is that part of the Great Rift Valley which, running down from the north, traverses Nyasaland from end to end. In this deep trough lies Lake Nyasa, 360 miles long and varying in width from 10 to 50 miles; the surface of the Lake is 1,500 ft. above sea-level and its greatest depth about 2,300 ft., so that the lowest part of the floor of the trough is over 700 ft. below sea-level. From the south end of the Lake issues the River Shire, which falls to about 120 ft. above sea-level at Port Herald and finally joins the Zambesi 250 miles from the Lake.

The country east and west of the Rift Valley rises in mountains, generally steep and sometimes precipitous, to form high plateaux; west of the Lake these are generally between 3,300 and 4,400 ft. above sea-level, but in the north the Nyika uplands rise as high as 8,000 ft. South of the Lake lie the Shire Highlands with a general elevation of 2,000 to 3,500 ft. rising to the mountain masses of Zomba (7,000 ft.) and Mlanje (10,000 ft.). In the extreme south the rift, occupied by the lower part of the Shire, is only 200 to 300 ft. above sea-level.

The only other geographical features of any note are the two minor lakes, Chiuta and Chilwa, which lie on the Portuguese border to the east, between Lake Nyasa and the Mlanje range.

On the Lake shore there is a distinctive climate; the temperature seldom rises above 100° F., but the proximity of the Lake and the generally heavy rainfall during the wet season create a humid atmosphere which is trying. Elsewhere the climate varies with the altitude. In the highlands it is equable and healthy, and at altitudes above 3,000 ft. extreme heat is unusual and fires are welcome in the evenings of the cold season; in the Shire valley the temperature rises to 115° F. in October and November.

The rainfall divides the year into two seasons, the dry season from May to October and the wet season from November to April. The first rains are due at any time after mid-October, and from then until the end of December there are violent thunderstorms with heavy rain of no long duration, occurring at irregular intervals, these intervals being hot and

oppressive. Steady rains should be established in January and continue until about the end of March, often rising to a crescendo of storms in the last week or two of the season; dry spells of a week or more frequently occur about the beginning of February. After March rainfall diminishes rapidly and from May to September the climate is on the whole cool and dry; heavy Scotch mists, known locally as chiperones (as they appear to come from Chiperone Mountain in Portuguese territory), are common in the highlands in June and July. The country can be divided into some seven zones of rainfall, with annual falls ranging from under 30 in. to over 70 in., and the distribution of the dry season fall determines the areas suitable for certain crops; it has been suggested, for example, that the limit of the true tea, coffee, and tung areas of the country may be traced on the dry season rainfall map by the 7-in. isohyet.

The small size of Nyasaland and the great variety of physical and climatic conditions within it, greatly though they add to the attractiveness of the country, account together for many of the difficulties and much of the expense involved in its administration and development.

Chapter 2: History

Nyasaland is Livingstone's country. It is true that there are various Portuguese records from 1616 onwards of occasional journeys made across the southern end of what is now the Protectorate, and that in the eighteenth century Portuguese officials and miners penetrated into the neighbourhood of the present Northern Rhodesian border, not far from the site of Fort Jameson; but none of these left any lasting trace. It is also true that from an indefinite date, perhaps the sixteenth century, until almost the end of the nineteenth, there was constant passage through and settlement in Nyasaland by migrating Bantu tribes, but their traditions, as at present known, are too vague to be given the name of history.

The history of Nyasaland can therefore be said to begin with David Livingstone's discovery of Lake Nyasa on 16th September, 1859. In the early sixties the path he had opened was followed, under his guidance, by the pioneers of the Universities' Mission to Central Africa, but in the short time between these expeditions the country had been defaced by tribal wars and slave raids in a way which made a harrowing contrast to the smiling land and people seen earlier by the great explorer. The missionary pioneers retired in the face of disease and death, after suffering heavy and tragic losses, and the Universities' Mission did not return until 1881.

After Livingstone's death, and inspired by it, both the Church of Scotland and the Free Church of Scotland established missions in 1874-75 as memorials to him, the former at Blantyre, named after his Scottish birthplace, and the latter at Livingstonia, first sited at the south end of the Lake but soon removed to the north. At this period, to quote the Bell Report, "Nyasaland was a whirlpool of migrant tribes, war and slave-raiding, and during the dry season caravans of slaves in chains and

slave-sticks started from the areas round the mission stations for the coast ports". These constituted a challenge which neither Christianity nor ordinary European humanity could ignore, and it is to the eternal credit of the Scottish missions that next after Livingstone's name in the roll of Nyasaland's great pioneers must be inscribed the names of Robert Laws of Livingstonia and Alexander Hetherwick of Blantyre, to whose services the country largely owes the growth of a *Pax Britannica* rather than the imposition of a *Pax Romana*.

At this early period there were no means of obtaining supplies or services except by the exchange of trade goods, chiefly calico, and the missions had perforce to trade. To relieve the missionaries of much of the commercial side of their activities a number of business men, mainly from Glasgow, who were interested in Livingstonia, formed in 1878 the African Lakes Company as a transport and trading concern to work in close co-operation with mission activities; the original heads of the company (now the African Lakes Corporation) were the brothers Moir. One of their objects was to achieve Livingstone's aim of combating the slave trade by rendering it economically unsound in the face of legitimate commerce as well as by the spreading of Christianity.

These pioneers were followed by other Europeans, missionaries, traders, hunters, and coffee planters, but not until 1883 did a representative of the British Government appear, in the shape of a Consul accredited to "the Kings and Chiefs of Central Africa"; the second consul established himself at Zomba, now the seat of Government.

By now the first of Nyasaland's nineteenth-century invaders, the Angoni—who are entitled to claim descent from Chaka's Zulu—had almost ended their wanderings, which had taken them in fifty years from Natal to Lake Tanganyika and back to the hinterland of Lake Nyasa; the Yao, starting from somewhere about the headwaters of the Rovuma River, on the modern border between Tanganyika and Portuguese East Africa, were still on the move round the south end of the Lake, warring as they went. At the same time the slave-traders at the north end of the country were becoming steadily more inconvenienced by the competition of religion and commerce by which they were now faced, and in 1888 trouble, followed by open warfare, arose between the Arab leaders of the trade and the African Lakes Company, who had to expend most of their resources on military operations. Fortunately for Nyasaland it came under the eye of Cecil Rhodes, whose British South Africa Company came to the financial rescue.

About this time, too, the Portuguese Government began to cast interested eyes on the lands to the north of the Zambesi, on which river it had long had military and trading posts, and there was a certain degree of international friction. In 1889, however, one cause of friction was removed by the discovery of a navigable route through the Zambesi delta from the Indian Ocean which made Nyasaland accessible, by way of the Zambesi and the Shire, by an international waterway without touching Portuguese territory. Nevertheless, in the same year a conflict took place on the Lower Shire between a well-armed Portuguese expedition under Major Serpa Pinto and one of the Makololo chiefs, in consequence of which the

Acting Consul, a pioneer planter named Buchanan, claimed a British Protectorate over the Shire country on 21st September, 1889, almost exactly thirty years after Livingstone first set foot on the shores of Lake Nyasa.

In 1891 an Anglo-Portuguese Convention ratified the work of Mr. H. H. (later Sir Harry) Johnston, Mr. A. (later Sir Alfred) Sharpe, and others and a Protectorate was proclaimed over the countries adjoining Lake Nyasa; in 1893 the name of the territory was changed to the British Central Africa Protectorate, but in 1907 a further Order-in-Council revived the old name of the Nyasaland Protectorate. It must here be emphasised that Nyasaland did not fall under British influence by conquest or annexation; it was led under the protection of the Crown by British missionaries and traders with, as the first Proclamation put it, "the consent and desire of the Chiefs and people".

By 1896 the slave-trade had been extinguished and the countries of the Yao and the Southern Angoni pacified, although the Northern Angoni did not come fully within the sphere of British Administration until 1904. They had, however, long given up raiding their neighbours, partly because of an unpleasant military surprise inflicted upon them by the Achewa to their south, but undoubtedly mainly because of the immense influence acquired over their Paramount Chief by Dr. Laws, to whom, with his colleagues, was due the peaceful entry into the British Commonwealth of a hundred thousand people with their five thousand square miles of territory.

Since then the life of the country has on the whole been peaceful, though of course affected like that of every other land by the two World Wars. Nyasaland's position in 1914 with her long common border with German East Africa was dangerous, but prompt action on both land and water scotched the immediate danger, and she was able to contribute greatly to the British forces which waged the long and costly East African campaign. It was during this war that the country suffered the only armed rising in its modern history, when one John Chilembwe, a native pastor half-educated in the United States and egged on by the German authorities, rose with his followers in the Blantyre neighbourhood and murdered several Europeans against whom the rebels had personal grudges; rapid counter-measures were taken and the rising fizzled out with the death of its leader in a scuffle in the bush on the Portuguese border. To the credit of these misguided men it must be recorded that such European women and children as fell into their hands were treated with the utmost consideration.

Nineteen thirty-nine found the Protectorate far from any front, but nevertheless in a position to aid the war effort very considerably, in relation to her size, in both men and materials. In peace-time Nyasaland raises the two senior regular battalions of the King's African Rifles, and the First Battalion maintained its pride of place by being the first African colonial unit to be in action, in 1940, against the Italians on the Abyssinian border, and the last out of action in 1945, in the neighbourhood of Rangoon, after adding Abyssinia, Madagascar, and Burma to a list of campaigning grounds which in the previous fifty years had embraced

much of tropical Africa. By the end of the war nearly 30,000 Nyasalanders, including a very high proportion of the Protectorate's small European population—men and women—had served in the forces, and to the two original battalions had been added a further seven line battalions, two field regiments of artillery, over 4,000 drivers in the East African Army Service Corps, and numerous other garrison and ancillary troops. The wandering habits of the natives of the country, to which fuller reference is made below, led also to their appearance in many of the non-Nyasaland units of the East African Forces, in the non-European units of the Union Defence Force, and in the Pioneers; a few of the last-named had the misfortune to be taken prisoner at Tobruk and thereby made the acquaintance of Italy and Germany before they were liberated.

The social and economic history of the Protectorate since its proclamation is on the whole one of slow but steady progress in the face of many difficulties. Migratory tribal units have become stabilised, and the last flood of immigrants was one of natives from Portuguese territory swarming over the border in search of work on the tea estates and later settling down in the Southern Province. Thanks largely to the work of the missions, which now have among them representatives of the Roman Catholic Church, the Dutch Reformed Church of South Africa, and the Seventh Day Adventists, as well as the successors of the Scottish and Anglican pioneers, education has made considerable strides, craftsmen continue to increase in numbers, and medical aid has reached far beyond the more settled areas of the country. The influences of western culture have undoubtedly done much to drag the African from the anchorages of his tribal beliefs and discipline, but on the credit side there has probably been the building up of more sound moral character than the superficial observer often believes; as in material progress much of the credit belongs to the missions, so in this moral sphere much is due to the influence and example of lay Europeans both men and women. A current task is the inculcation among Africans of a spirit of voluntary service to their fellows, which had not been encouraged by an earlier insistence on the virtues of rugged individualism, usually expressed in terms of cash. As social welfare activities grow, so will the field for such service expand, but it is already finding its opportunity in probation work, in scouting, and in the management of such recreational activities as football leagues.

Reference has already been made to the wandering habits of the Nyasaland native; travel is in his blood, life at home is apt to be dull, and in a predominantly agricultural country cash returns have so far been low by comparison with other territories. It was not long, therefore, after the pacification of the country that he began to find his way to the higher cash wages of Rhodesia and the bright lights of the Rand. The Nyasa is now to be found in South Africa, the Rhodesias, Tanganyika, Kenya, the Belgian Congo, Portuguese East Africa and London; he has also been reported from the New York waterfront. The stream of emigrants swelled steadily into a flood, until by the nineteen-thirties it was safe to say that nearly a third of the able-bodied men were away from Nyasaland. Since then measures have been taken to control the flow to some extent,

to safeguard the emigrant while out of the country, and to ensure that in as many cases as possible he, and his savings, return home after a fairly short period, either for good or for regular holidays. The country's contribution to the economic progress of its neighbours has therefore been considerable, possibly too considerable for its own good.

Otherwise, the economic history of Nyasaland is its agricultural history, which is a record of pioneer planting by Europeans of single products over large areas with little previous experimental work, save perhaps in the most recent instance, tung. The earliest economic crop was coffee—a coffee tree figured prominently in the Protectorate's first coat of arms—which was displaced by cotton; cotton then gave way to tobacco and tea, and these two may now be regarded as established crops. Tung grows steadily in importance, but its position as a major crop will depend very largely on the result of the experiments now being carried on in connection with the Vipya development scheme. The last twenty years have also seen the establishment of certain minor secondary industries, but it is unlikely that most of these will ever be of more than local importance. They do, however, contribute considerably to the comfort and well-being of the population, in their provision of cheap soap, cigarettes, and shoe-leather.

No sketch of the history of Nyasaland would be complete without a reference to the development of its communications. In the early days the Zambesi, the Shire, and Lake Nyasa provided the main artery of communication, interrupted only by the sixty-mile portage round the Murchison Cataracts. By the time that the Chinde mouth of the Zambesi was discovered in 1889, the level of the Shire had begun to fall, and steamers could not proceed beyond Chiromo. The growing importance of Blantyre led to the planning of a railway to it from the Lower Shire, and in 1907 work was begun on a line from Chiromo to Blantyre; almost immediately, however, the continued fall in the level of the river made Chiromo useless as a port, and the railway was continued to Port Herald, the line being opened in 1908. Port Herald then became difficult or impossible of approach for steamers, and between 1913 and 1915 a further fifty miles of railway were constructed between Port Herald and Chindio, on the northern bank of the Zambesi in Portuguese territory.

Meantime the level of the Upper Shire was also falling, and in due course steamer traffic became impossible outside Lake Nyasa. The Blantyre–Zomba road, one of the first to be made in the country, was therefore extended to Fort Johnston, at the south end of the Lake, and this was the main transport route in use during the First World War. The Protectorate is linked by road with all its neighbours, and the trunk roads from Blantyre to Mbeya and from Salima to Fort Jameson are important parts of the main communications of Central Africa.

Navigation on the Zambesi next became uncertain, and a railway, opened in 1922, was built from Murraca, on the south bank of the Zambesi nearly opposite Chindio, to Dondo, eighteen miles from Beira, on the line from Beira to Rhodesia. The ferry service was, however, unsatisfactory, and the line was frequently washed out by floods. In 1935, therefore, a railway bridge across the Zambesi was opened, and at

the same time the line was extended from Blantyre to the neighbourhood of Lake Nyasa at Salima, giving uninterrupted rail communication between the Lake at Chipoka and Beira on the Indian Ocean. As an illustration of the trials of those who plan in Africa, it may be added that about the time this link was completed the Lake began to rise again and the Shire with it, so that in the rainy season the railway bridge at Chiromo might have more than twenty feet of water under it; a re-alignment of the track in this neighbourhood became urgently necessary. Early in 1948, a few months after this improvement had been completed, a great island of sudd, floating down the flooded Shire, carried away the Chiromo bridge, and Nyasaland's railway link with the sea became dependent on a swiftly improvised ferry, which remained in operation throughout 1949. A new steel bridge completed during 1949 will be in service in 1950.

Chapter 3: Administration

The Protectorate is administered by the Governor assisted by an Executive Council composed of the Chief Secretary, the Financial Secretary and the Attorney-General as *ex-officio* members, and the Secretary for African Affairs, the Director of Agriculture and two un-officials as nominated members. The Laws of the Protectorate are made by the Governor with the advice and consent of the Legislative Council, constituted by the Nyasaland Order in Council, 1907. The Legislative Council at the end of 1948 consisted of the Governor as President, six official members (including the three *ex-officio* members of the Executive Council) and six unofficial members. Five of the unofficial members were selected from nominations by public bodies representing European interests. The sixth was nominated by the Governor to represent native interests, which are also the direct concern of the official members. Early in 1949 the Legislative Council was enlarged by the addition of six more nominated members, three officials, two unofficial Africans, and one unofficial Asiatic. The two African members were selected from nominations made by the African Protectorate Council and the Asiatic member from nominations made by an Asiatic public body.

The judicial system of the Protectorate is described in Part II, Chapter 9.

The principal departments of Government, apart from the Provincial and District Administration, are: Judicial, Legal, Medical, Agricultural, Public Works, Education, Police, Prisons and Mental Hospital, Geological Survey, Labour, Veterinary, Forestry, Posts and Telegraphs, Audit, Lands and Surveys, Customs, and Printing and Stationery. There are Co-operative and Game, Fish and Tsetse Control branches of the Provincial Administration.

The policy of the Government is defined and controlled in the Secretariat. The Chief Secretary is the channel of communication between Government on the one hand and heads of departments and the general public on the other. He is the head of the Civil Service.

For administrative purposes the Protectorate is divided into three Provinces, Northern, Central and Southern, each in charge of a Provincial Commissioner, who is responsible to the Governor for the administration of his Province. The Provinces are divided into districts in charge of District Commissioners who are responsible to the Provincial Commissioner. Provincial Commissioners and District Officers are responsible for the good conduct of the Native Administrations within their areas.

The townships of Blantyre, Limbe, Zomba and Lilongwe are administered in their domestic affairs by town councils, which in the two former cases are elected by the ratepayers and in the two latter are nominated by the Governor.

Local native self-government was introduced into the Protectorate in 1933 and has achieved some progress. Administrative and judicial work has been increasingly delegated to Native Authorities; one of the most important duties delegated is the collection of native tax, the bulk of which is now collected by the Native Administrations. In most districts Native Authorities have tended towards the amalgamation of their Treasuries into larger units which permit the pooling of funds for minor works and for improving the conditions of service of the employees of the Native Administrations.

In 1944 and 1945 African Provincial Councils were set up in the three Provinces under the Chairmanship of the Provincial Commissioners. These Councils, which are advisory, are composed of Chiefs and other responsible African members under the presidency of the Provincial Commissioners and are designed to facilitate consultation between Government and the African population through their leaders, to provide a ready and authoritative means for expression of African opinion, and to promote the development of political and civic responsibility among Africans; these Councils have proved successful in operation. In 1946 the further step was taken in creating an African Protectorate Council, which comprises 20 members chosen from the membership of the Provincial Councils, under the presidency of the Secretary for African Affairs; it is upon this body that the responsibility rests for recommending Africans for appointment to the Legislative Council. This Council has proved to be most useful in furnishing the Government with expressions of responsible African opinion on many matters affecting the native peoples of the Protectorate, and the Councillors themselves have frequently expressed their appreciation of the value of the African Protectorate Council in bringing together representatives of every part and tribe of Nyasaland to work together for the good of the country as a whole.

Below the level of the African Provincial Councils there are District Councils and Councils for the areas of the various Native Administrations. Some progress was made during 1949 in the development, of Group Councils within Native Authorities' areas at what might be described as the "parish" level, to provide a more effective link between the Native Administrations and the man in the village, but the pre-occupation of the administrative staff with the planting campaign and

subsequent distribution of food meant that the amount of supervision necessary for the successful working of the system could not be afforded in full. The policy which is being pursued is the organisation of an efficient form of native local government based fundamentally upon popular interest and initiative.

INFORMATION SERVICES

A Public Relations Office was established in February, 1949, as a branch of the Secretariat. Information work had previously been handled by the Education Department. The functions of the Public Relations Officer are to assist in interpreting the policy of the Government to the people of the Protectorate; to act in an advisory and co-ordinating capacity for the introduction of information on the various development schemes; to keep in touch with public opinion and to publicise information concerning the affairs of the Protectorate for use in Great Britain and elsewhere. In the execution of these duties the Public Relations Officer makes use of the Press, the cinema, broadcasting and publications. There is evidence that an increasing interest is being taken in the affairs of the Protectorate by the Press of other countries, and requests have been received from publishers in East, Central and South Africa to be included on the distribution lists for press communiqués.

It was not possible to get the photographic section of the Public Relations Office established until October. In the earlier part of the year a limited amount of photographic work was done, and photographs were used to supplement the press communiqués.

The expansion of broadcasting and listening facilities for Africans has been given careful consideration, following upon advice from the Secretary of State for the Colonies that more funds under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act would be made available for this purpose. Proposals have recently been discussed with the Government of Northern Rhodesia, as the administering authority of the Central African Broadcasting scheme, for the distribution of cheap radio receivers and group listening sets for the use of Africans. These proposals include the setting up in Nyasaland of a low-powered transmitter and small studio beamed on Lusaka.

Progress towards the provision of mobile cinemas has been slow owing to delays in the arrival of the vehicles from the United Kingdom which has in turn prevented the recruitment of the necessary staffs. The projectors have been obtained, and a library of films is being built up.

The filming of a travel film of Nyasaland in colour was completed by the end of the year. This film will have a valuable function in giving overseas publicity to the life and activities of the territory as well as the equally important use of spreading knowledge of other parts of the Protectorate within Nyasaland.

The presentation of the British way of life and thought, more commonly referred to as projection of Britain, is undertaken by the regular distribution of British magazines and newspapers.

Tourist development is now the responsibility of the Public Relations Officer, who has taken over the duties which had long been performed

by the Nyasaland Publicity Committee. The Publicity Bureau in Blantyre continues to give assistance to visitors, and is the main source of distribution of publicity literature. Close liaison is maintained with tourist organisations in other countries and a considerable volume of literature is exchanged.

Chapter 4: Weights and Measures

Standard British weights and measures are in use throughout the Protectorate.

Chapter 5: Newspapers and Periodicals

The Nyasaland Times, published by the Blantyre Printing and Publishing Co., Ltd., is the only local English newspaper. It is published twice weekly, on Mondays and Thursdays. It reaches practically all the Europeans in the Protectorate, and is also read by a number of the more educated Africans. It is one of the few newspapers with a nickname, being generally referred to as the "CAT", from the initial letters of the title of its forerunner many years ago, *The Central African Times*. The first regular newspaper was a monthly journal, *The Central African Planter*, published in 1895.

Msimbi, published by the Public Relations Officer for the Government, is a weekly four-page newspaper carrying news in English, Chinyanja and Chitumbuka, with illustrations and advertisements. It replaced the old free news-sheet *Nkhani za Nyasaland* (*News of Nyasaland*) in October, 1949, and was produced to meet part of the avid thirst of Africans for news and information. The name means "the teller or recorder of news", and its correspondents are *osimba*, the plural form of the vernacular word. The intention is to meet the general demand for a larger paper as soon as material, staff and equipment permit, but without increasing the price of 1d weekly. The present circulation is about half of what it could be, without any sales-promotion, owing to the delays in paper supplies.

The Nyasaland Journal, the organ of the Nyasaland Society, is published twice a year and deals with all aspects of social, cultural, historical and scientific interests of the Protectorate.

The Nyasaland Agricultural Quarterly Journal is produced mainly by the staff of the Department of Agriculture. It provides a valuable contact between the Department and planters.

Most Mission Stations produce a journal of some kind, chiefly devoted to domestic news and business and printed or duplicated in the vernacular. One large Roman Catholic Mission is preparing for the publication of a monthly illustrated magazine in the New Year. An estate in the Central Province produces its own duplicated news-sheet which is sold to employees. It is eagerly read and is a useful means of conveying Estate instructions to employees.

There are no independently owned African newspapers or publications.

South African and Rhodesian newspapers, European and African, have a considerable circulation in Nyasaland, though their news is two or three days old by the time they are received. British newspapers and periodicals are mainly taken by Clubs for their members. A note on the distribution of British newspapers and magazines to Africans appears in the chapter on Information Services.

The Nyasaland Government Gazette is published twice a month by the Government Printer in Zomba and is the official organ of the Nyasaland Government for the publication of purely official announcements or notices, and such matters as are required by law to be published for public information. The *Government Gazette* was originally published in 1894 as the *British Central African Gazette*, and its pages provide an excellent contemporary account of conditions when British Administration faced the difficult problem of warring tribes and an active slave trade in addition to its normal function of governing the country.

Chapter 6: Reading List .

GENERAL WORKS

British Central Africa. Sir H. H. JOHNSTON. Methuen, 1906.

Fifty years old, but with that qualification one of the fullest and finest descriptions ever published of any portion of the earth's surface. It covers history, anthropology, zoology, botany, health and disease, and the local languages, with much other interesting matter.

Handbook of Nyasaland. S. S. MURRAY. Crown Agents, 1932.

A general description of the country as it was in 1932, published under official auspices. A useful supplement to Johnston.

The Union-Castle Steamship Company's annual *South and East African Handbook* contains some useful current information and maps.

HISTORY

The Zambesi and its Tributaries, and Last Journals. D. LIVINGSTONE. Murray, 1875.

First-hand accounts of the missionary explorer's travels in which he opened up Central Africa to the western world.

Kirk on the Zambesi. R. COUPLAND. Oxford University Press, 1928.

Livingstone and his companions seen through other eyes.

British in Tropical Africa. IFOR L. EVANS. Cambridge University Press, 1929.

Notes on the History of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples. T. CULLEN YOUNG. Religious Tract Society, 1932.

Material for the history, mainly traditional, of the tribes living near the headquarters of the Livingstonia Mission.

After Livingstone. F. L. M. MOIR. Hodder and Stoughton, 1923.

The development and pacification of Nyasaland, by one of the founders of the African Lakes Company.

ANTHROPOLOGY

Notes on the Customs and Folk-lore of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples.

T. CULLEN YOUNG. Livingstonia Mission Press, 1931.

The Spirit-Ridden Konde. D. R. MACKENZIE. Seeley, 1925.

Articles on the Yao by H. S. STANNUS in *Harvard African Studies*.

Articles on the Angoni by MARGARET READ in *Africa*.

BIOGRAPHY AND AUTOBIOGRAPHY

Laws of Livingstonia. W. P. LIVINGSTONE. Hodder and Stoughton, 1921.

Romance of Blantyre. A. HETHERWICK. J. Clarke, (1931).

These deal with the lives and experiences of two pioneer missionaries.

Nyasaland in the Nineties. R. C. F. MAUGHAM. Lincoln Williams, 1935.

African Small Chop. H. DUFF. Hodder and Stoughton, 1932.

Reminiscences of the early days of the Administration.

LANGUAGES

Manual of the Nyanja Language. A. HETHERWICK. African Lakes Corporation, 1916.

The standard work on Chinyanja, but difficult for beginners.

Elements of Nyanja. T. PRICE. Blantyre, Hetherwick Press, 1943.

A Practical Approach to Chinyanja. T. D. THOMSON. Zomba Government Printer (1947).

Yao Grammar. MEREDITH SANDERSON. S.P.C.K., 1922.

Notes on the Speech of the Tumbuka-Kamanga Peoples. T. CULLEN YOUNG. Religious Tract Society, 1923.

NATURAL SCIENCE

Nyasaland Native Food. BARKER. Blantyre Printing and Publishing Co.

The Birds of Nyasaland. C. F. BELCHER. Crosby Lockwood, 1930.

Report on the Fish and Fisheries of Lake Nyasa. BERTRAM, BORLEY, and TREWAVAS. Crown Agents, 1942.

Check List of Nyasaland Forests and Shrubs. P. TOPHAM. Editor: J. B. DAVY. Imperial Forestry Institute, 1936.

FICTION

The White Leopard. INGLIS FLETCHER. Hodder and Stoughton, 1931.

The Circle of the Stars. JOAN SUTHERLAND. Hodder and Stoughton, 1924.

One Way Home. HOWARD BUXTON.

Three melodramas, geographically established in Nyasaland.

GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

(To be obtained from the Government Printer, Zomba, or the Crown Agents for the Colonies)

- Annual Reports* of the various Departments.
Census Reports, 1911, 1921, 1931, and 1945.
Land Bank Report, 1936.
Direct Taxation of Natives (Smith), 1937.
Memorandum on Native Policy, 1939.
Tobacco Commission Report, 1939.
Report on Housing for African Employees, 1943.
Tsetse Investigation of Domira Bay Area (Potts).
Report of the Committee on the Development of the Lake Shore, 1945.
Report on the Status and Control of Insect Pests of Cotton in the Lower River District (Pearson and Mitchell), 1945.
Revised Report of the Post-War Development Committee, 1947.
Report of a Fiscal Survey, 1947.
Report of the Game and Forest Reserves Commission, 1947.
Report of the Salaries Commission, 1947. Pts. I and II.
Report of the Commission to consider the Removal of the Capital, 1947.
Report on the Education of Women and Girls in Nyasaland, 1947.
Land Planning Report, 1948.
Nyasaland Development Programme, 1948.
The Nyasaland Government Gazette, issued twice monthly. 10s per annum.

IMPERIAL GOVERNMENT PUBLICATIONS

Obtainable from H.M. Stationery Office as shown on page 3 of the cover.

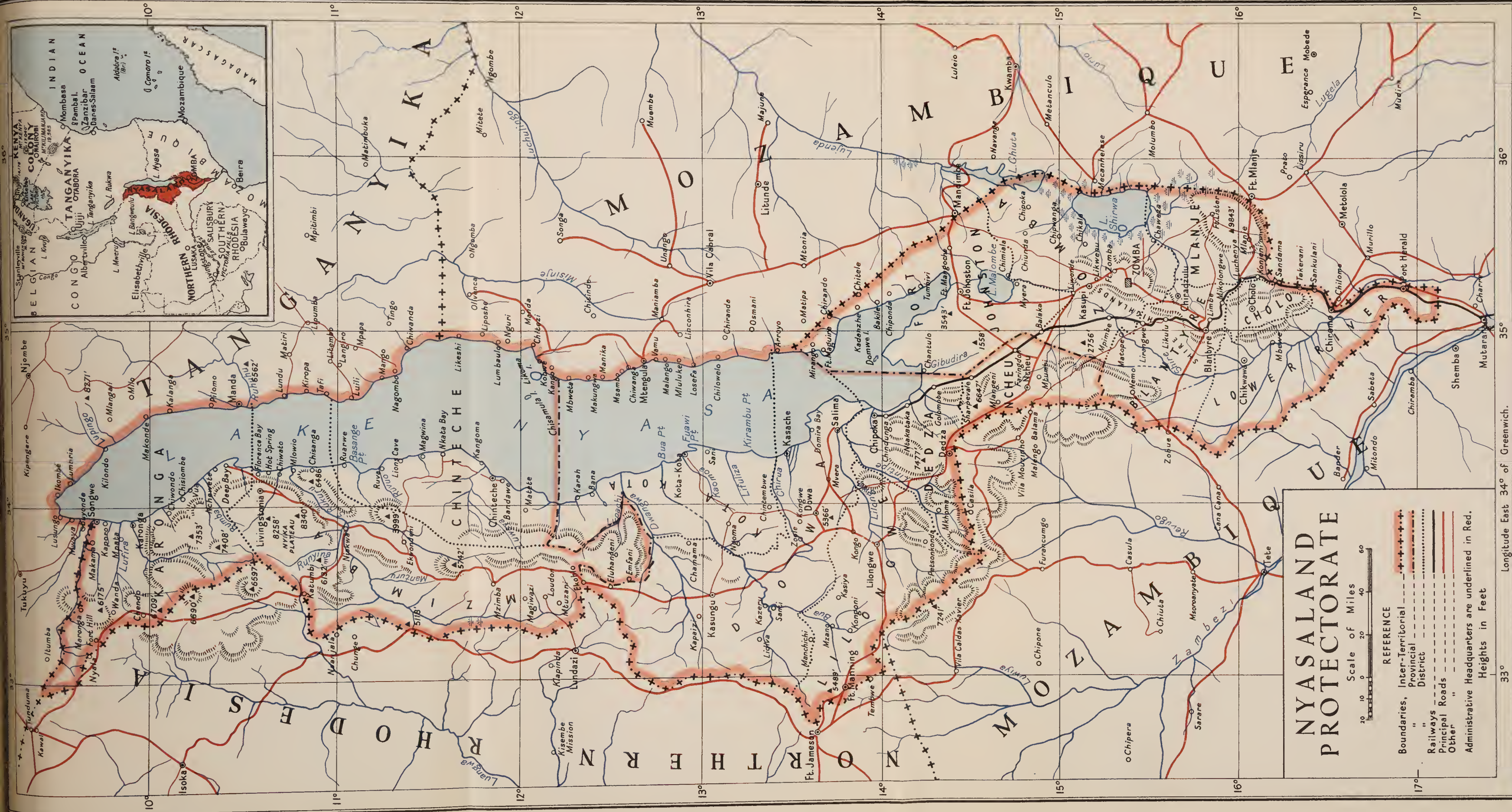
Prices in brackets include postage.

- Report of the Commission Appointed to Enquire into the Financial Position and Further Development of Nyasaland.* (Bell Report.) Colonial No. 152, 1938. Deals mainly with economic matters, but contains much useful general information. 10s (10s 6d).
Rhodesia-Nyasaland Royal Commission's Report. (Bledisloe Report.) Cmd. 5949, 1939. Deals mainly with the question of closer association and co-operation between the Central African territories, but also contains valuable general information. 7s 6d (7s 11d).
Report of the Commission on the Civil Services of Northern Rhodesia and Nyasaland. Part II: Colonial No. 222, 1948. 1s 3d (1s 5d). (Part I published by the Government Printer, Lusaka, Northern Rhodesia.)
Report on the Water Resources of the Bechuanaland Protectorate, Northern Rhodesia, the Nyasaland Protectorate, Tanganyika Territory, Kenya, and the Uganda Protectorate. By Professor FRANK DEBENHAM. Colonial Research Publication No. 2, 1948. 10s 6d (10s 10d).
Report on Tobacco, with particular reference to the prospects of increased production in Central and East Africa. By S. S. MURRAY. Colonial Research Publication No. 4, 1949. 2s (2s 2d).

APPENDIX

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT AND WELFARE SCHEMES IN OPERATION 1949 AND APPROVED FOR 1950

<i>Scheme Number</i>	<i>Scheme</i>	<i>Estimated Expenditure 1949</i>	<i>Estimated Expenditure 1950</i>
D1067	General Agriculture Development	£ 36,628	£ 48,589
—	Tung Experimental Station	6,808	9,054
R157	Lilongwe Experimental Station	24,700	16,040
R220	Agricultural Experimentation	1,450	1,450
R858	Hydrological Survey	6,250	7,585
D738	Aerodromes	86,000	77,250
—	Aeronautical Telecommunications	—	24,900
D382	Education Scheme	84,268 Protectorate Funds	181,771 Protectorate Funds
D867	Afforestation Scheme	80,000 C.D. & W. Fund	
R307	Tsetse Research	18,908	11,183
D1191	Geological Survey	6,573	7,284
D878	Mineralogical Survey	—	2,410
D813	Water Supplies	8,897	5,461
D505	Veneral Disease Campaign	38,622	22,781
D902 c.	Leprosy Settlement	8,500	6,000
D902 a. d.	Medical Health Plan	6,000	3,000
D902 b	Health Units	21,960	2,957
—	Mental Hospital	3,500	1,000
D849	Stock Improvement	—	37,000
D1200	Livestock Diseases Survey	16,020	11,857
D812	Road and Bridges	—	8,680
D812	Machinery and Road Plant	231,000	181,500
D846	Domasi District Development	29,000	7,500
		5,000	11,293



COLONIAL REPORTS

ANNUAL REPORTS

BASUTOLAND	GOLD COAST	NTHN. RHODESIA
BECHUANALAND	HONG KONG	NYASALAND
PROTECTORATE	JAMAICA	SARAWAK
BRITISH GUIANA	KENYA	SIERRA LEONE
BR. HONDURAS	MAURITIUS	SINGAPORE
BRUNEI	FED. OF MALAYA	SWAZILAND
CYPRUS	NIGERIA	TRINIDAD
FIJI	NORTH BORNEO	UGANDA

BIENNIAL REPORTS

ADEN	*GIBRALTAR	*ST. VINCENT
*BAHAMAS	*GILBERT AND	SEYCHELLES
*BARBADOS	ELLICE IS.	SOLOMON IS.
BERMUDA	*GRENADA	*SOMALILAND
CAYMAN IS.	LEEWARD IS.	*TONGA
DOMINICA	NEW HEBRIDES	TURKS AND
*FALKLAND IS.	*ST. HELENA	CAICOS IS.
*GAMBIA	ST. LUCIA	ZANZIBAR

* These territories will produce a Report for 1949 and the remainder for 1949-50.

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